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ABSTRACT

The appendices included in Volume V of this five volume study of the INSPEC SDI system are a continuation of those in Volume IV and consist of: Communications with users etc.; Specimen sheets from descriptor file; Time on profile modification and analysis, and user assessment; Profiles compiled by compilers 1, 2, and 3; Proposed comparison of methods of user interaction in compiling and modifying profiles; Letter inviting comments on draft profile; Explanatory letter re. above; Information Requirements - Queries; Notes for visits/interviews; and Alternative form of SDI notifications. (The study procedures are in Volumes I through III and are: LI004067 through 004069. Volume IV which contains the other appendices to the study is LI004070.) (Author/NH)

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Report No. R.71/6

INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION SERVICES IN PHYSICS, ELECTROTECHNOLOGY, COMPUTERS AND CONTROL

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INSPEC SDI INVESTIGATION

1967 - 1969

Volume II

P Clague

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The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams Voltampere London Telex Cables Voltampere London WC2

Dear

We should be grateful for your help in a government-sponsored investigation into ways of developing national and international information services for scientists and technologists in the fields of physics, electrotechnology and control.

The aim of the attached questionnaire, which we hope you will be kind enough to complete, is to discover your attitude as a research worker to scientific and technical information, and the use you make of the information services available at present.

We have tried to ensure that the questions are straightforward and may be answered quickly. If, however, you would like to add further comments, we shall, of course, be delighted to have them.

Thank you for your help,

Yours sincerely,

T. M. Aitchison,
Manager, Information Research.

Enc.

S.1

The Institution of Electrical Engineers **Savoy Place • London WC2**

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

SURVEY OF INFORMATION USE BY RESEARCH WORKERS

Your co-operation in answering the questions below will be appreciated. A reply-paid envelope is enclosed.

1. Age: Under 25 ( ) 25-30 ( ) 31-40 ( ) 41-50 ( ) Over 50 ( )

2. Qualifications (and main subjects .....

.....

3. Position (Your title in the organisation or the position you hold, e.g. Lecturer, Senior Scientist, Group Leader, etc.,):

.....

4. Research role: Please indicate wiether you are

( ) In charge of research workers

( ) Member of research team

( ) Individual research worker (with or without assistance)

( ) Other (please state) .....

5. Subject of research (e.g. Semiconductor devices, gas lasers):

.....

.....

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

6. Type of research on which you spend most of your time:

( ) Pure (concerned mainly with adding to scientific knowledge)

( ) Exploratory (intended to produce knowledge of practical value)

( ) Applied (seeking a solution to a specific problem)

( ) Other (please explain) .....

7. How important do you consider it to keep abreast of new work published in your field?

Essential ( ) Valuable ( ) Of minor importance ( )

8. Are you reasonably satisfied that you are well informed on new work in your field published in English?

Yes ( ) No ( )

9. Please indicate the degree of difficulty each of the following causes you in keeping yourself aware of current English-language information (= negligible difficulty: 5 = great difficulty)

Finding out which specific, newly-published items (periodical articles etc.) are relevant to your interests.	1 2 3 4 5
Obtaining material (either to scan for relevant items or to read and assimilate.)	1 2 3 4 5
Finding time to read and assimilate the material when obtained	1 2 3 4 5

10 When faced with a new problem or in the course of a new project, do you attempt to discover what information has been published on the subject?

Yes ( ) No ( )

If No, is this because

( ) Although you consider it necessary, it would be too difficult or time-consuming, or the facilities available are inadequate, etc.?

( ) You consider it not necessary?

( ) Other reasons (please state) .....

.....

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: Covent Garden 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

Dear

We recently sought your help in a survey of the use made of information sources by research workers in the fields of physics, electrotechnology and control.

We hope you will not mind us jogging your memory in this way since your reply is important to the rest of the investigation on which we are engaged.

In case the previous questionnaire has gone astray we enclose a second copy which we hope you can find time to complete and return.

Yours sincerely,

T.M. Aitchison

Enc.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

SDI Investigation

Dear

We should very much like to have your assistance in a government-funded investigation of a new information technique. This technique offers a possible solution to the problem of keeping abreast of recently published work. What your participation would involve is described in the attached note.

If you would like to be included in the group of research workers who will receive and evaluate the service, please let us have details of your subject interests on the attached form. As we are working to a tight schedule, we would like to have the details as soon as possible. No covering letter is required.

We hope that you will be willing to assist us in this investigation. As your time is valuable, we shall ensure that participation involves the minimum of time and effort on your part.

Yours sincerely,

P Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

S.5

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

SDI Investigation

Participation of Research Workers

The object of the work is to investigate the value, economics and acceptability to users of the Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) system. In the SDI system, documents received by the information centre are compared by computer with the individual subject interest of each user. The user is then notified of those documents which sufficiently match his interests.

It is hoped to obtain the participation of 600 electronics research workers in industry, government research establishments, universities, and colleges of technology. They will be chosen as a representative group of users and will receive a weekly SDI service, free-of-charge, over a period of 18 months. During this period it is expected that the value to them of the service they receive will progressively improve as their requirements become more exactly defined and experience is gained in operating the system.

The electronics research workers who wish to participate in the investigation and receive the SDI service will be asked to agree to co-operate as follows.

Initially they will be asked to supply details of their subject interests. Each week throughout the period of the SDI services they will be asked to assess the relevance to their subject interests of the notifications sent to them. In addition they will be asked periodically to give their views on different formats and types of notifications, and finally to make an assessment of the value of the SDI service.

In general it is not expected that participation in the investigation will take, each week, more than a few minutes of each research worker's time, and everything possible will be done to keep the effort involved to a minimum.

S.3.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers **Savoy Place** **London WC2**

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

SDI Investigation Profile No._____

Statement of Information Requirements

The main aim is to establish the subjects or topics on which you would like to be kept informed. These should be continuing interests and the more details you can give, the closer we shall be able to get to a correct understanding of your particular interests. In this connection the references to relevant articles will be very useful.

This statement of your requirements will be used to construct a draft subject-profile which will be sent to you and modified in the light of the comments you make. When the profile has been agreed a number of trial runs will be made before it is finally adopted as the basis of your SDI service.

Information Requirements.

As a guide we attach two examples of the type of statement which has been found more satisfactory than a simple list of terms. However these are intended only as a guide and you are not limited to this kind of statement.

Please state your information requirements here

Please see over

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

S.7.

Additional Information

It would be helpful if you would assume that we are non-expert in your subject and explain what you understand by any of the specialised terms you have used above, or give any alternative terminology used for the subjects mentioned.

Relevant articles

It would be of great assistance if you would cite up to six articles which you consider relevant to the subjects you have mentioned.

Date _____ Signed _____

Example of statement of information requirements (1)

I should like to be kept informed of all articles on compound semiconductors of the II-VI Group, particularly zinc sulphide, zinc selenide, cadmium sulphide and cadmium selenide. I am also interested in the optical and electrical properties which given information on defect levels in other semi-insulators, examples of such properties are absorption and emission spectra, thermoluminescence, electrical conductivity as a function of temperature, space charge limited currents, Hall effect and electron spin resonance. I should also be interested in theoretical work on photo conductivity, electroluminescence, acoustoelectric interaction and special effects such as the Gunn and Hall effects. Carrier transport, Schottky emission and tunnelling in semiconductors are also relevant.

Additional information

The II-VI semiconductors also include zinc telluride, cadmium telluride, mercury telluride, mercury selenide and mercury sulphide - these are of some interest to me but less than ZnS, ZnSe, CdS and CdSe.

Semi-insulators are those compounds which have energy gaps (forbidden bands) between about 1.5 and 3.0 eV.

The Gunn effect is the production of high frequency oscillations in bulk semiconductors under the action of an electric field.

Example of statement of information requirements (2)

I am interested in all applications of lasers, both present and possible, including range-finding, detection of clear-air turbulence, optical spectroscopy, Raman spectroscopy, optical information processing, spatial filtering, holography, micromachining, welding, surgery, etc. I also am concerned with laser mode selection techniques and with switching and pumping techniques. I am particularly interested in high-repetition-rate and high-energy pulsed lasers and methods of charging, triggering and switching including zenon flash tube operation.

Additional information

The types of laser (optical maser) of interest are solid state, ruby, or semiconductor injection lasers. Gas lasers are of no interest to me.

Many of the papers on holography will use the term 'wavefront reconstruction'

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Telephone: Covent Garden 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

SDI Investigation

The Institution of Electrical Engineers is conducting a government-funded investigation of the selective dissemination of information system. In this investigation, an SDI service will be provided free-of-charge to 600 electronics research workers in selected organisations. Details of the investigation are enclosed.

We should very much like to have your co-operation in the investigation and to have a number of your colleagues take part as users. The work that this would entail for you is described in the enclosed note, 'The role of the Project Associate': as you see, it can be as little or as much as you wish. A note on the participation we should like from the research workers is also enclosed.

At present we merely wish to know whether you are willing for yourself or one of your staff to co-operate in the investigation as Project Associate. If you would like us to seek management approval for your organisation to take part, please let us have the name of the person to whom we should write. As soon as we know that you are willing and able to co-operate in the investigation we shall explain how we should like you to help in selecting the research workers to take part. The approach to possible participants should, we suggest, be left for the present.

We hope that you will be willing to assist us in this way: we think you will find it interesting and that it will prove of value to your organisation.

It would be a great help if we might have your answer as soon as possible and enclose a reply-paid envelope for the purpose.

If there are any points you would like clarified please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

P. Clague
SDI Investigation.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

SDI Investigation

The Role of the Project Associate

We are anxious to obtain from each organisation participating in the SDI investigation the assistance of a member of the organisation's information staff who will act as Project Associate. As Project Associate he will play an integral part in the investigation and will have a key role in the selection of research workers to receive the SDI service and in providing a link between them and the SDI staff.

We realise that this is an invitation to take on additional, unpaid, work, but we do believe that it will be of value to your organisation, of use to your information service, and of interest to you or the member of your staff who agrees to help us. For the SDI Investigation, such co-operation will be invaluable and virtually essential to its success.

We shall do everything possible to keep the work required of the Project Associates to a minimum. They may, of course, opt out at any time and arrange for us to deal direct with the recipients in their organisations.

We envisage the role of the Project Associate in each organisation as follows, although only his assistance in the initial selection of research workers is essential:-

(1) He would be the agent for the project in his organisation.

(2) If he agrees, all correspondence with the users would be routed through him. Two copies of each item of correspondence would be sent to him, one to be passed on to the user to whom it was addressed, the other for his retention. Thus, at minimum cost in effort, the Project Associate would be the channel through which his users receive communications. Alternatively, we could correspond direct with the users.

(3) If he wished, he would act as the local distributor of the weekly SDI notifications. These would be sent to him in bulk, addressed to each individual, for distribution. This would allow him to have the information service to his users under his control and to have advance notice of material he might be asked to supply. Alternatively, if he preferred, the notifications would be sent direct to each user.

(4) In addition there are a number of records we should like to have maintained, though not necessarily by all Project Associates. We are interested in finding out how many documents notified by the SDI service are of sufficient interest for the recipient to request them from his library or information service. We should also like to discover how receipt of the SDI service affects the recipient's use of his library or information service. As the results of these investigations should be of interest to the Project Associates personally, we hope that many of them will be willing to maintain the records.

Thus, in general, we hope that the Project Associate will be our liaison with the research workers in his organisation and an integral part of the SDI team.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

S.D.I. Investigation

Selection of User and Control Groups
(Notes for Project Associates)

For the results of the S.D.I. Investigation to have maximum value, those forming the user and control groups must be as representative as possible of British research workers in electronics. They should be a random sample and should not be self-selected, i.e. by volunteering to take part.

It is hoped that the Project Associate will provide a list of the electronics research workers in his organisation from which a random selection will be made by the S.D.I. staff. A questionnaire will be sent to each of this initial sample and a further random selection made from the research workers who reply. Those selected will be invited to participate in the investigation as users and to receive the S.D.I. service free-of-charge. The remainder of those who answer the questionnaire will form the control group who will not be approached further until they are sent another questionnaire at the conclusion of the investigation.

In compiling the initial list there will be no need for the Project Associate to approach the research workers, and the part he will play in the investigation will only be revealed to users when they have agreed to participate.

Alternative: initial selection by Project Associate

As has been indicated, selection by the S.D.I. staff from a list of names supplied by the Project Associate is the method preferred and will normally be less trouble for the Project Associate.

However the provision of such a list may be impossible for reasons of security or difficult because there are too many electronics research workers in the organisation to be easily listed. In either case it may be preferable for the Project Associate to do the initial selection and to supply the S.D.I. staff with the names of only those selected. For this the following methods are proposed:

(1) Where there are not too many electronics research workers in the organisation, the method suggested is to compile a numbered listing of the names of these research workers. Numbers between 1 and the highest number of the list are then taken from random number tables and those names selected which correspond to the numbers. (Tables of random numbers will be provided by the S.D.I. staff if required)

(2) Where the number of electronics research workers is so large as to make listing them a major task, it may be possible to use existing departmental lists or internal telephone directories. Selection is then carried out as in (1), with the exception that random numbers which do not refer to electronics research workers are rejected and further random numbers are taken until the required total is obtained. Also, to avoid the need to number a long list of names, pairs of random numbers may be taken, with the first number then referring to the page of the list and the second to the name on that page.

It is emphasised that the above method is put forward only as a possible but less-preferred alternative and it is hoped that in most organisations it will be possible to use the standard method and provide a list of names from which the initial selection may be made by the S.D.I. staff.

Difficulties may, of course, be encountered in applying these methods in some organisations. If any problems should occur it is hoped that the Project Associate will not hesitate to contact the S.D.I. staff.

NOTES:

(i) Our definition of electronics includes, for example, the following topics: communications, electroacoustics, electron optics, electron physics, electronic control, electronic devices, electronic instruments, medical electronics, microwave electronics, plasma electronics, quantum electronics, propagation of e-m waves, radar, radio-astronomy, semiconductors, solid-state electronics, telemetry and television.

(ii) Since it is difficult to define the boundary between research and development, it has been decided to adopt a wide rather than a narrow definition of research so that it includes the following (as defined in the questionnaire to research workers):

(a) Pure research - concerned mainly with adding to scientific knowledge

(b) Exploratory research - intended to produce knowledge of practical value

(c) Applied research - seeking a solution to a specific problem.

It will be noted that in many organisations, 'applied research' as defined above would be almost synonomous with development.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

SDI Investigation

The SDI Investigation

The Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) system is designed to assist the individual research worker or engineer to cope with the ever-increasing flow of published information by bringing to his attention only those documents which are likely to be of use to him in his work. In the SDI system the documents received by the information centre are compared by computer with the interests of each individual and information is sent to him of those documents which sufficiently match his requirements.

The SDI Investigation of the Institution of Electrical Engineers is based on the National Electronics Research Council's SDI Project, the responsibility for which has been transferred to the Institution. A two-year investigation will be conducted of the value, economics and acceptability to users of the SDI system. In this investigation a sample of 600 electronics research workers drawn from industry, government research establishments, universities and colleges will be provided with a weekly SDI service on English-language periodical articles.

The SDI service will be provided free-of-charge to a specially selected sample of electronics research workers in return for their assistance in the investigation. During the first year of the investigation the sample will be selected, their subject interests formulated and validated, and a periodic SDI service provided to allow the initial adjustments to be made to the subject-interest formulations. In the following year a regular weekly SDI service will be provided and during this time the main assessments and tests will be made.

These assessments and tests will include:-

(a) the performance of the system (e.g. recall and precision)

(b) the rate of change of profiles

(c) a comparison of the value of titles only, titles with lists of descriptors, and titles with abstracts, for assessing relevance

(d) the value, usefulness and acceptability of the service

(e) the acceptability of different forms of notification

(f) the effect of the SDI service on the users' information-gathering habits

The SDI Investigation forms part of the research and development activities of the Institution's Information Service in Physics, Electrotechnology and Control (INSPEC)

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone 01-240 1871 Telex 261176 Telegrams Voltampere London Telex Cables Voltampere London WC2

Dear

SDI Investigation

Some time ago we offered you the opportunity to be included in a group of six hundred electronics research workers who, as part of a government sponsored investigation, will receive a computer-based information service free of charge in return for agreeing to assist in its evaluation. In case the previous letter has gone astray I enclose a copy of the letter and the enclosures.

We hope that you will accept the invitation but we should like to know soon whether you wish to take part of whether we should replace you in our sample. Perhaps you would let us know by ticking the appropriate box at the foot of this letter and returning it in the envelope provided.

We hope we shall have your co-operation in our investigation.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation

I wish to take part: my Statement of Information Requirements
is enclosed herewith ☐
will be sent within ten days ☐

I do not wish to take part in the SDI Investigation ☐

S.15

Secretary G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers **Savoy Place** **London WC2**

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

Dear

SDI Investigation

Before we complete the draft profile based on your statement of information requirements we should be grateful for your help in clarifying one or two points. To refresh your memory a copy of your statement is enclosed.

The points for clarification or confirmation have been put as questions on the attached, with space for your reply in the second column. Although we have tried to ensure that only brief replies are required, we should, of course, welcome any further information or comments you care to provide.

It may well be that the queries arise from a lack of understanding on our part. If so, we apologise and hope you will not mind giving us this additional information.

Thank you once again for your help.

Yours sincerely,

F. Clague,
SDI Investigation.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

S.10

The Institution of Electrical Engineers **Savoy Place** **London WC2**

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

From: To:

P. Clague
SDI Investigation
Institution of Electrical Engineers,
Savoy Place,
London, W C.2.

Information Requirements - Queries

Herewith, as requested, my replies to the following questions:

Questions: Reply:

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

Dear

SDI Investigation

Since the main phase of the Investigation began in July 1967, considerable progress has been made and we have now reached the stage where we can, with your help, start modifying the first draft of the profile we compiled on the basis of your statement of information requirements.

We realise that it was no easy task to compile the statement and we are most grateful for the care with which you did it and the large amount of detail you provided.

Some three hundred statements have now been received, from which we have compiled draft user profiles. These profiles, together with three hundred documents indexed by subject, have been used to test our SDI programs at the National Computing Centre.

Now that the basic backroom effort has been completed we can start modifying the initial draft profile to bring it close to your requirements. For this we should like to have your assistance as described in the attached.

We did not write to you while the preparatory work was going on since we have promised not to contact you unnecessarily. However I should like to assure you that we greatly value your participation in the Investigation and hope that you will find it both interesting and - later - rewarding.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01 240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams Voltampere London Telex Cables Voltampere London W.C.2

Dear

SDI Investigation

Thank you for your acceptance of our invitation and the statement of information requirements. We realise that it was no easy task to compile the statement and we are most grateful for the care with which you did it and the large amount of detail you provided.

While a draft profile is being compiled on the basis of your statement, we should be grateful for your help in assessing the relevance of the enclosed documents to your interests. These assessments will be used with the results of a first computer match, to analyse the performance of your profile, and to modify it as necessary.

The method of assessment is given in the attached notes, but I would like to emphasize that this is not an SDI service, but merely a quick means of obtaining data for profile adjustment.

We look forward to receiving your assessment so that we may modify your draft profile in readiness for the experimental SDI service which will begin in the next few weeks.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

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S.Iba

Secretary G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

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Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams Voltampere London Telex Cables Voltampere London WC2

Dear

SDI Investigation

We should be grateful for your help in assessing the relevance of the enclosed documents to your interests. These assessments will be used, with the results of a first computer match, to analyse the performance of your profile, and to modify it as necessary.

The method of assessment is given in the attached notes, but I would like to emphasize that this is not an SDI service but merely a quick means of obtaining data for profile adjustment.

We look forward to receiving your assessment so that we may modify your draft profile in readiness for the experimental SDI service which will begin in the next few weeks.

Yours sincerely,

P Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation

S.16b

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

SDI Investigation

Notes on Initial Assessment of Relevance

The three hundred documents used to test our SDI programs have been arranged in broad subject groups (often in more than one group each). We enclose a copy of those groups which are at all likely to contain documents of interest to you, and should be grateful if you would mark those items which, judging from the titles, you consider relevant to your requirements. To remind you, a copy of your statement is enclosed for your retention.

We should be obliged if you would mark the items on the list as follows:-

✓ = of interest or relevant (so far as one can tell from the title)

? = possibly of interest but cannot be sure from the title

Where the item is of no interest (and we suggest that this will be the case for most of those on the list), no mark is required.

A reply-paid envelope is enclosed for the return of the lists, together with the duplicated covering letter which contains space for any comments you may wish to make.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

SDI Investigation

Notes on Initial Assessment of Relevance

Some 700 documents have been assembled as an initial test collection for matching against draft profiles of users' information requirements. The documents have been listed in broad subject groups (usually in more than one group) and those groups are enclosed which are at all likely to contain documents of interest to you. Thus some of the documents may be duplicated in different lists and we would expect that only a small proportion of those listed will be of interest to you.

We should be obliged if you would mark the items on the list for relevance to your requirements as follows:

/ = of interest or relevant (so far as one can tell from the title)

? = possibly of interest but cannot be sure from the title

Where the item is of no interest, no mark is required.

A reply-paid envelope is enclosed for the return of the lists, together with a duplicated covering letter which contains space for any comments you may wish to make, and a copy of your statement for your retention.

Please note that this is a special listing of documents, selected to obtain initial relevance data, and is not similar to the SDI service you will receive hereafter.

S.18a

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

From:

To:

F. Clague
Manager,
SDI Investigation
Institution of Electrical Engineers
Savoy Place,
London, W.C.1.

Initial Relevance Assessment-Return

I have examined the lists of documents and have marked those which are likely to be relevant to my interests (✓), and those which might possibly be relevant (?).

Comments:

Signed. . . . . .

Date . . . . . .

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

Dear

SDI Investigation

You were good enough to make an assessment of the initial set of documents for their relevance to your requirements. This was extremely valuable and we are making use of it to amend the draft subject-interest profile we have compiled for you.

We should, however, be greatly helped in our work of improving the performance of your profile if we might have your assessment of the relevance of a second set of documents. As before we have selected those sections of the total set which are at all likely to contain documents of interest to you and would be grateful if you would mark those you consider are likely to be relevant (✓), or may possibly be relevant (?). A reply paid envelope is enclosed for the return of the lists and letter.

We hope that this will be the last time we shall have to ask you to carry out such a large-scale relevance assessment on older documents and that your draft profile will soon be suitable for inclusion in the experimental SDI service.

Thank you for your help.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

S.19.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams Voltampere London Telex Cables Voltampere London WC2

From:

To:

P. Clague,
Manager,
SDI Investigation,
Institution of Electrical Engineers,
Savoy Place,
London, W.C.2.

Relevance Assessment - Return

I have examined the lists of documents and have marked those which are likely to be relevant to my interests (/), and those which might possibly be relevant (?).

Comments:

Signed . . . . . .

Date . . . . . .

S.20.

Secretary G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers **Savoy Place** **London WC2**

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

SDI Investigation

Dear

The initial preparatory work has been completed and we are now in a position to invite your comments on the enclosed first draft of the profile based on your Statement of Information Requirements. I should explain, however, that while we shall be delighted to receive your comments we do not expect you to spend time making a detailed analysis of the profile.

As you will see there are two parts to the profile:-

a) List of descriptors or terms.

b) Boolean logic statement defining the combination of descriptors needing to be satisfied before a document will match the profile.

Example:-

1. IMPATT devices
2. Read diodes
3. Gunn effect devices
4. Generation
5. Amplification
6. Masers
7. Millimetre waves
8. Microwaves.

$$1 + 2 + 3 + ((\overline{6} + 4 + 5).(7 + 8))$$

The operators '+' and '.' have their normal logical meaning of 'OR' and 'AND' respectively; $\overline{6}$ means NOT masers. Brackets have the usual algebraic meaning, but extra ones are used to satisfy computer requirements.

Thus the profile in the example above would select any article dealing with IMPATT devices or Read diodes or Gunn effect devices, or with the generation or amplification of microwaves or millimetre waves providing that a maser was not involved.

I hope this gives you enough information to work out the meaning of the draft profile. If you have any comments perhaps you would let us have them on the attached sheet using the reply-paid envelope. If there is no comment you wish to make, may we have a 'nil' return, please, by return of the sheet.

Thank you once again for your help

Yours sincerely,

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E. P. Clague,

Manager, SDI Investigation.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

From: Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams Voltampere London Telex Cables Voltampere London WC2

To:

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation,
Institution of Electrical Engineer
Savoy Place,
London, W.C.2

Draft Subject Profile.

I am returning herewith the draft subject profile together with my comments.

Comments. (N.B. If it is convenient to annotate the profile itself, please do so.)

Signed . . . . . .

Date . . . . . .

S.22.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

Dear

SDI Investigation

We should be grateful if you would allow a member of our team to visit you to discuss your information requirements. Since receiving the original statements of information requirements we have compiled and modified draft subject profiles. We now wish, by means of a brief discussion, to discover how accurately we have been able to formulate your interests using only this information. The visit will be part of a study of effectiveness of various methods of obtaining full details of each individual's requirements.

We hope to visit a number of your colleagues* for the same purpose and should like to arrange all of the visits for the same day if possible. If you are willing to be visited, perhaps you would indicate on the enclosed timetable all of the times that you would be available for at least fifteen minutes. If, however, you would prefer not to be visited, please indicate this instead: it will not affect your receipt of the SDI service.

I do hope, however, that you will agree.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague
Manager, SDI Investigation.

S.24

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex 261176 Telegrams Voltampere London Telex Cables Voltampere London WC2

From:

To

P. Clague
SDI Investigation
Institution of Electrical Engineers
Savoy Place
London W C.2.

SDI Investigation Visit

I shall be willing to discuss my information requirements with a member of your staff at any of the times indicated

Date	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

I do not wish to be visited ☐

Signed _____

Date _____

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

Our Ref: PC/SI/

12th February, 1968

Dear ,

Thank you for letting us have details of the times at which you would be willing to be visited by a member of the SDI team.

We are accordingly arranging for to visit you at your address on at

No confirmation of this arrangement is required. However, should any difficulties arise perhaps you would contact us on Stevenage 3311 Ext. 59.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers **Savoy Place** **London WC2**

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

Dear

SDI Investigation

In the light of your recent comments we have made any necessary modifications to your draft subject profile. The next stage is to test its effectiveness in selecting relevant items from a sample set of documents which have been indexed and input to the computer. For these tests we need to establish which of the sample documents are relevant to your interests and we should be grateful for your help in this.

The enclosed lists contain all of the groups of the sample which are at all likely to have documents of relevance to you and we should be glad if you would mark those items which, judging from the titles, you consider likely to be relevant (/) or may possibly be relevant (?). No mark is needed for those considered irrelevant and we expect that these will be the majority. A copy of your original statement of information requirements is enclosed for your retention to remind you of the areas covered.

A reply paid envelope is enclosed for return of the lists together with the duplicated covering letter which contains space for any comments you may wish to make.

Thank you for your help.

Yours sincerely

P. Clague.

Manager SDI Investigation

P.S. If you find very few relevant articles this merely means that the sample is deficient in your subject field not necessarily that we have misunderstood your requirments. In such cases the negative return is still of great value to us.

S 27

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams Voltampere London Telex Cables Voltampere London WC2

Dear SDI Investigation

We recently sent you a preliminary list of documents which we hoped you would assess for relevance to your subject interests.

As we explained we need this information to test the performance of your draft profile, i.e. its effectiveness in selecting relevant documents and rejecting irrelevant ones. From these results of the test on a sample collection of documents we shall know how best to modify your profile to improve its performance.

We are anxious to have a similar relevance assessment made for the second half of the test collection but are in difficulty in that we have not yet received your assessment for the first half. In case this has gone astray we are including them with the second group of documents and should be most grateful if you would not mind letting us have your assessment of both sets of documents at the same time. A reply paid envelope is enclosed.

We hope this will be the last time that we shall need to ask you to carry out such a large scale relevance assessment on older documents and that your draft profile will soon be suitable for inclusion in the experimental SDI service.

Yours sincerely,

P Clague,
Manager SDI Investigation.

S.28

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams Voltampere London Telex Cables Voltampere London WC2
Our Ref: PC/SL/

February 1968

Dear ,

SDI Investigation

Thank you for making the relevance assessments on the lists of documents. We shall now be examining these together with any comments you made and we hope to write to you soon about particular questions which arise in connection with your subject interest profile.

However it might be useful now if we explained more fully than was possible in our previous letter how these relevance assessments fit into the Investigation.

As we said, a draft subject interest profile has been constructed and we wish to assess roughly how well it performs and what modifications may be needed. The performance is a measure of its effectiveness in selecting from a set of documents all those which are relevant while rejecting all others. To test this we need to know which documents in the set are relevant to each profile and, by marking the list of documents, you have provided this information.

The sample set of documents is initially relatively small and drawn from a limited number of sources. As a result some fields of interest are not well represented but these will be included in the next test collection. However it may be some consolation if you found few relevant documents in the list that it is equally important to us to know which documents are not relevant.

Finally perhaps I ought to stress that the lists are only intended to serve the above purpose and, of course, bear no resemblance to the sort of notifications we shall be providing in the SDI service.

Once again many thanks for all the help you have given.

Yours sincerely.

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams Voltampere London Telex Cables Voltampere London WC2

Dear

Thank you for completing and returning the recent relevance assessment on the sample documents. We apologise in particular if you received very long lists which contained only a small proportion of items relevant to your particular field of research This arose largely from the difficulty of assembling a test collection covering the many aspects of electronics research while keeping the items to a manageable number.

With the relevance assessments together with the many helpful comments that have been received explaining particular points we are now able to make test matching runs on the computer and determine what further modifications are needed to the draft subject profiles.

This testing and modification of some 600 profiles has to be completed before the start of the experimental service planned for April. During this period therefore, we hope not to have to bother you unless important points arise in the interpretation of your information requirements.

Finally let me say how encouraged we have been by the general willingness to help and explain that has been shown by participants. We are looking forward to the time when we can repay some of this in the SDI service.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation

S.34

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

Dear

Thank you for completing and returning the recent relevance assessment on the sample documents. We apologise in particular if you received very long lists which contained only a small proportion of items relevant to your particular field of research. This arose largely from the difficulty of assembling a test collection covering the many aspects of electronics research while keeping the items to a manageable number.

With the relevance assessments, together with the many helpful comments that have been received explaining particular points, we are now able to make test matching runs on the computer and determine what further modifications are needed to the draft subject profiles, before they are included in the experimental SDI service.

Finally let me say how encouraged we have been by the general willingness to help and explain that has been shown by participants. We are looking forward to the time when we can repay some of this in the SDI service.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

S.34a

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

SDI Investigation

Dear

The Institution of Electrical Engineers is conducting a government-funded investigation of the selective dissemination of information system. In this investigation, an SDI service will be provided free-of-charge to 600 electronics research workers in selected organisations. Details of the investigation are enclosed.

In addition to the individual workers who will receive a service to meet their individual requirements, a number of groups of research and development workers are being included in the investigation. Each group will provide a single statement of its information requirements (covering the joint needs of its members) and receive a service as if it were a single composite individual.

If you would like a group in your organisation to take part in the investigation and receive the SDI service free-of-charge, please arrange for the completion and return of the attached Group Data and Requirements form. It will be for you (and your colleagues, if you wish) to determine the composition and type of the group (see the attached notes).

We hope that a group from your organisation will wish to take part in the investigation, and would ask you to return the completed form as quickly as possible. We are working to a very tight programme and will not be able to keep open a place for very long.

If you wish clarification of any point, or additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me on Stevenage 3311.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers **Savoy Place** **London WC2**

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

SDI Investigation

Notes on Group Participation

Groups

Participation in the SDI Investigation and receipt of a weekly SDI service for at least twelve months is available to groups of electronics research or development workers* of certain randomly selected organisations. It is for each organisation invited to decide the type and composition of the group. A group may be for example: (a) the senior technical staff of a small company; (b) a project or research or development team; (c) all or part of a section or department; or (d) a number of individuals with mainly the same subject interest. The group should contain at least three individuals and, preferable not more than twenty.

Group Co-ordinator

The Group Co-ordinator will provide the link between the Group and the Investigation staff. He will receive the SDI outputs and will be responsible for ensuring that the members of the group are informed.

Information Requirements

Two examples are enclosed of a type of statement which has been found more satisfactory than a simple list of terms. However these are intended only as a guide and it may be that the requirements of a group will be less detailed unless it is a small team working on a specific piece of research.

There is no restriction on specifying the requirements of a group (except that these should be continuing requirements). It is suggested, however, that it may be more satisfactory to concentrate on the requirements common to all or most members of the group rather than the specialized needs of each member.

* Our definition of electronics includes, for example, the following topics: communications, electroacoustics, electron optics, electron physics, electronic control, electronic devices, electronic instruments, medical electronics, microwave electronics, plasma electronics, quantum electronics, propagation of e-m waves, radar, radio-astronomy, semiconductors, solid-state electronics, telemetry, and television.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

SDI Investigation Group Profile No._____

From

To:

P. Clague,
SDI Investigation,
The Institution of Electrical
14 Queensway, Engineers,
Stevenage, Herts.

Group Data and Requirements

1. Name and postal address of Group Co-ordinator

2. Group Members

Name	(Mr/Dr/Mrs/Miss)	Title or position in Organisation

(If required, please continue list overleaf.)

3. Relationship of group members (i.e. what is the closest bond or common link? e.g. members of a research team or working on the same project, or in the same section or department, or only associated as members of the same organisation?

4. In general, are the members of the group engaged mainly in:
   ( ) Pure research (i.e. concerned mainly with adding to scientific knowledge
   ( ) Exploratory research (i.e. intended to produce knowledge of practical value)
   ( ) Applied research or development (i.e. seeking a solution to a particular problem)

5. Information Requirements (i e. the subjects or topics on which the group members would like to be kept informed)

6. Additional Information It would be helpful if you would assume that we are non-expert in your subject and explain what you understand by any of the specialised terms you have used above or give any alternative terminology used for the subjects mentioned.

7. Relevant articles. It would be of great assistance if you would cite any two articles which you consider relevant to the subjects you have mentioned

Date_____ Signed_____

S.3c

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams Voltampere London Telex Cables Voltampere London WC2

Dear

SDI Investigation

We have received the completed Group Data and Requirements form and have pleasure in welcoming you as a Group Co-ordinator. A copy of the form is enclosed for your retention.

As part of the Investigation we shall, in the next few days, be making a survey of the use of information by the members of the group. We shall send a separate questionnaire direct to each member, with a reply-paid envelope for its return. For this, no co-ordination work will be required and we shall similarly do any "chasing" of replies direct.

We hope in the next few weeks to compile the group profile and to begin, with the assistance of your group, the process of modifying it to meet your requirements as closely as possible.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

S.40

Secretary G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

Dear

SDI Investigation

We recently sent you a preliminary list of documents which we hoped you would assess for relevance to your subject interests. As we explained we need this information to test the performance of your draft profile, i.e. its effectiveness in selecting relevant documents and rejecting irrelevant ones. From these results of the test on a sample collection of documents we shall know how best to modify your profile to improve its performance.

We cannot trace receipt of your assessment and should be grateful if we might have it as soon as possible. If the assessment has gone astray please tick the square below and return this letter in the enclosed reply-paid envelope.

The experimental SDI service will begin next month and we should like to complete the testing and modification of your draft profile so that it can be included from the beginning.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

☐

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

S.41

The Institution of Electrical Engineers **Savoy Place** **London WC2**

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

Dear

SDI Investigation

We recently invited your comments on the first draft of the profile we had compiled from your statement of information requirements.

As no reply can be traced, it may be that our letter or your reply has gone astray. We are therefore enclosing a copy of our letter and attachments and would be grateful for your comments, or a 'nil' return, as soon as possible, so that the compilation and testing of the draft profile can be completed in time for inclusion in the experimental SDI service from its commencement next month.

Thank you for your help.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

S.42

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

Dear

SDI Investigation

We recently invited your help in clarifying one or two points in connection with the draft profile based on your statement of information requirements.

As no reply can be traced, it may be that our letter or your reply has gone astray. We are therefore enclosing a copy of the letter and attachments and should appreciate a prompt reply so that the compilation and testing of your draft profile can be completed in time for inclusion in the experimental SDI service from its commencement next month.

Thank you for your help.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

S.43

The Institution of Electrical Engineers

44 Queensway Stevenage Hertfordshire

Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

SDI Investigation

I am happy to say that we expect to start the experimental phase of the SDI Investigation in the next week or two. During this phase, which will last until September, an SDI service will be provided at intervals (to allow us time to make the extensive profile changes we expect will be necessary). In the operational phase from September 1968 onwards, the service will, of course, be weekly.

We shall start by providing a service to only those whose profiles seem in reasonable working order: the remainder will be included over the next month or so as we complete the testing and modifying of their profiles. We shall send you a list of the participants in your organisation when the initial modifications are completed.

In supplying the SDI service we can send the notifications either direct to your users, or through you (i.e. you would receive a packet of addressed but unsealed envelopes containing their notifications). Similarly the relevance assessments we require in reply can be returned direct to us or through you. It is difficult to say where the balance of convenience lies for us, so we shall be happy with whatever answer you give on the attached form, and shall provide reply-paid envelopes in either case.

S.44

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough, Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

From:

To:

SDI Investigation,
The Institution of Electrical
44 Queensway Engineers,
Stevenage,
Herts.

1. I should prefer the SDI notifications to be sent:

a) direct to my users ☐

b) through me ☐

2. I should prefer their relevance assessments to be returned:

a) direct to you ☐

b) through me ☐

Comments

Signed. . . . . .

date. . . . . .

S.45

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
44 Queensway Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

May, 1968

Dear

We are very happy to announce the start of the experimental SDI service and to send you herewith your first batch of notifications. These comprise those items in the first batch of documents input to the computer which match your subject interest profile.

During the next six months of test operation we shall be carrying out a series of such matching runs on the computer and sending you similar batches of cards.

The aim in this period is to analyze how effectively your subject profile meets your information requirements and to modify it accordingly so that it may form the basis for your regular service. For this we shall need your assessment of the relevance of documents notified to you. The simple 1, 2, X marking method for doing this is described on the attached sheet. We hope that this will reduce time and effort on your part and at the same time give us rapid feedback.

All of us in the SDI team are very conscious of how much we owe to you and all the other volunteers for your kind co-operation and patience over the past months while the investigation was getting under way. We look forward now to attempting to repay some of that debt.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

Secretary G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
44 Queensway Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

We are happy to be sending you herewith your first batch of experimental SDI notifications. These represent those documents that matched your subject profile out of an input of some 250 documents.

During the next three months of test operation we shall be carrying out a series of such matching runs and sending you the output to evaluate. The aim during this period is to determine what modifications are needed before your profile is fit to form the basis of your operational service. This means that you should not be over-concerned if the output you receive is initially small or only partly relevant. We shall be assessing your replies and making periodic analyses and adjustment to your profile.

The simple 1, 2, X marking method for relevance is described on the attached sheet. We hope that this will reduce the effort you need to spend on it and help to give us rapid feedback.

We are all very grateful for the assistance you have given over the past months and are looking forward to attempting to repay some of the debt that we owe.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

S.46a

Secretary G F Gainsborough Ph D, C Eng, F I E E

The Institution of Electrical Engineers

44 Queensway Stevenage Hertfordshire

Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Relevance Assessments

The computer printout shows the numbers of the documents for which notification cards are enclosed.

Please put 1, 2 or X against each document number to indicate whether the corresponding document is:

1 - highly relevant i.e. you would expect to be notified of all such articles by the SDI service

2 - partially relevant i.e. you are happy if such documents are brought to your attention but will not be concerned if a proportion are not

X - not relevant i.e. you do not wish to be notified of such articles

N.B. The assessment will of course be based on the information supplied on the cards.

A reply-paid envelope is enclosed for return of the marked-up computer printout.

The cards are for your retention. The words following the journal reference are the descriptive terms used to index the documents.

Secretary: G F Gainsborough Ph.D., C Eng., F I E E

The Institution of Electrical Engineers

44 Queensway Stevenage Hertfordshire

Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Relevance Assessments

The computer printout shows the numbers of the documents for which notification cards are enclosed.

Please put 1, 2 or X against each document number to indicate whether the corresponding document is:

1 - highly relevant i.e. you would expect to be notified of all such articles by the SDI service

2 - partially relevant i.e. you are happy if such documents are brought to your attention but will not be concerned if a proportion are not

X - not relevant i.e. you do not wish to be notified of such articles

N.B. The assessment will of course be based on the information supplied on the cards.

Please return the marked up printout to who is acting as Project Associate for the investigation.

The cards are for your retention. The words following the journal reference are the descriptive terms used to index the documents.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough, Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
44 Queensway Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

As promised in our recent letter we are sending herewith the first SDI notifications for those of your users whose profiles appear to be in reasonable working order. These are not necessarily the only ones that have reached this state, since others may not have found any matching items out of this first input of some 240 documents.

We are asking users to let us have relevance assessments for the notifications by marking the computer printout. Where you have requested it these are to be returned through you as Project Associate and we enclose reply-paid envelopes for your use.

As you can imagine we are very pleased to have reached the start of the experimental service and are keeping our fingers crossed for a good reception. Naturally we shall be most interested in any comments.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation .

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers

44 Queensway Stevenage Hertfordshire

Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

SDI Investigation

We are sending herewith the second batch of experimental SDI notifications for your users. The input to the computer for this run consisted, as before, of some 240 documents, i.e. a sample week's intake to the service. All users who received the first matching output will receive notifications this time assuming at least one document matches his profile. Similarly some users will now be receiving notifications for the first time where either their profiles were still unsatisfactory, or there was no matching output last time.

We have done rough assessments of "Precision" for the first batch of returns and are reasonably happy, particularly since the profiles have been adjusted at this stage with a bias toward good "Recall" rather than good "Precision". Naturally some individual cases are not satisfactory and we hope to review these cases over the next few weeks. There remains a small number of profiles which continue to cause trouble but we hope to sort these out quickly and get them into service.

To gain some idea of "Recall" we are planning shortly to send out partial listings of the documents input to these first two runs and ask users to mark those items which should have been notified to them. This will give us an indication of areas that are not being covered by the existing profiles and we shall be able to adjust where this seems necessary.

Given reasonable feedback we expect to be able to spot the bad profiles before any user gets disillusioned, but we shall be very grateful for a warning signal from you where you think trouble is arising.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

Secretary: G F Gainsborough Ph D, C Eng, F I E E

S.50.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
44 Queensway Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

July, 1968

Dear

SDI Investigation

You will now have received some SDI notifications from the first computer runs in the current period of experimental operation. As we explained earlier, our purpose in this period is to perform a number of test runs to determine what modifications are needed to your subject profile.

From your marked returns we know which of the documents notified were relevant to you. However we still need to discover whether your existing profile is failing to select some potentially relevant documents.

For this reason we are sending you a selected list of documents used in the recent matching runs on your profile, and we should be grateful if you would tick any title that you consider should have been notified to you (ignoring whether it was notified or not). Please tick only those items that you are reasonably sure are relevant: where there is any doubt, leave them.

It would be most useful if you could work through the whole list but we shall be happy with whatever proportion of the list you find time to examine. (But please indicate on the list the point at which you stopped.)

You may find some articles duplicated between sections - there is no need to mark relevant articles more than once but it will cause no problem if you do so.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

Secretary: G F Gainsborough Ph D, C Eng, F I E E

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
44 Queensway Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

July, 1968

Dear

SDI Investigation

Now that most users have received some form of experimental SDI notification we are trying to assess what relevant documents are being missed by each profile.

For this purpose we are asking users to look at a selection of the documents input to the computer for the first two experimental runs and to tell us which they should have seen.

We hope the covering letter is self-explanatory, but we would emphasize that it is not essential that users complete the list. We would rather they did part than get fed up with it and us.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

S.51.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

SDI Investigation

In the current experimental service period we are, as you know, attempting to assess how well your profile is performing.

To help us discover any gaps in your profile we should like you to indicate any items on the attached lists which you consider should have been notified to you. The lists contain a selection of articles input to the computer for experimental matching runs 003 and 004.

Please tick all items that you are reasonably sure are relevant, ignoring whether they were notified or not. Some titles are duplicated on different lists but there is no need to mark a relevant item more than once.

We realise that going through the lists is not the most exciting business but it does give us invaluable data for profile adjustment. If, however, you can find time to mark only a portion of the lists we should be grateful if you could indicate the point at which you stopped.

As always we are most grateful for your help.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

P.S. Please return the marked-up lists to your Librarian/ Information Officer,
who is acting as Associate for the Investigation.

S.57a

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough, Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
44 Queensway Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

SDI Investigation

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To help us discover any gaps in your profile we should like you to indicate any items on the attached lists which you consider should have been notified to you. The lists contain a selection of articles input to the computer for experimental matching runs 003 and 004.

Please tick all items that you are reasonably sure are relevant, ignoring whether they were notified or not. Some titles are duplicated on different lists but there is no need to mark a relevant item more than once.

We realise that going through the lists is not the most exciting business but it does give us invaluable data for profile adjustment. If, however, you can find time to mark only a portion of the lists we should be grateful if you could indicate the point at which you stopped. A reply-paid envelope is enclosed for the return of the lists.

As always we are most grateful for your help.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

Secretary G F Gainsborough Ph D, C Eng, F I E E

S.57

The Institution of Electrical Engineers

26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire

Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

SDI Investigation

We have now almost completed the period of experimental SDI operation and are busy preparing for the start of the weekly service in November.

Over the past months we have been analysing the performance of your profile using the various data you have so kindly provided. Certain modifications have been made to your original profile which we think will improve its effectiveness. However, we should be happier if we could test these modifications, and for this we should like your help in marking the enclosed list of titles to indicate which you consider should be selected by your profile.

As before tick only those you are reasonably sure are relevant and again some titles are duplicated on different sheets but there is no need to mark a relevant item more than once.

I hope you will bear with us in sending you this other list. You can be sure that we make full use of the information provided.

Owing to the lack of time before we start the service a prompt return would be invaluable.

With many thanks.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation

S.64

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough, Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers

26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire

Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

SDI Investigation

We have now almost completed the period of experimental SDI operation and are busy preparing for the start of the weekly service in November.

Over the past months we have been analysing the performance of your profile using the various data you have so kindly provided. Certain modifications have been made to your original profile which we think will improve its effectiveness. However, we should be happier if we could test these modifications, and for this we should like your help in marking the enclosed list of titles to indicate which you consider should be selected by your profile.

As before tick only those you are reasonably sure are relevant and again some titles are duplicated on different sheets but there is no need to mark a relevant item more than once.

I hope you will bear with us in sending you this other list. You can be sure that we make full use of the information provided.

Owing to the lack of time before we start the service a prompt return would be invaluable.

With many thanks.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague.
Manager, SDI Investigation.

P.S. Please return the marked-up lists to your Librarian/ Information Officer:
who is acting as Associate for the Investigation.

S.64a

The Institution of Electrical Engineers

26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire

Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

6th September, 1968

SDI Newsletter

This is the first of a planned series of occasional newsletters to report progress in the SDI Investigation.

Profile compilation

The work of collecting the sample group of participants and compiling subject profiles is largely complete and at present we have on file some 550 individual subject profiles plus some 30 composite profiles covering the interests of a number of small groups of individuals. Additional group profiles are currently being added to bring the total number of profiles to a planned figure of 600.

All profiles on file have been tested against a sample collection of some 700 documents to determine what modifications are necessary. These modifications are then tested and the process repeated where necessary before the final profile is passed for experimental operation.

Experimental operation

The chief purpose of the current period of experimental service is to gain further information of the performance of your profile and to optimise it ready for operational service in November of this year. During this time we plan to carry out eight computer runs and to send the output to users to evaluate. Five of these have already been completed and, with a few exceptions, all individual users have received at least one batch of notifications. Once your profile is put into service you will receive output from each experimental run assuming that at least on document matches your profile.

Journal coverage in the experimental period

The input of documents to each of the experimental runs will be the equivalent of one week's intake to the system. Thus since only eight runs are planned for the five months experimental period the coverage of the literature published in that time will be very incomplete. There will therefore be no significance in the fact that a particular relevant article is not picked up by your profile during this period. To determine whether relevant articles are being missed by your profile we shall, from time to time ask you to scan lists of the articles actually input to the computer and to mark those of which you should have been notified.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough, Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

S.5

Literature coverage

For the purposes of the investigation we are intending to cover only journal articles in the English language. These will be selected from some 300 journals and we expect to input approximately 250 articles each week to the computer. A list of the titles of the journals that we shall be scanning will be distributed to you shortly.

Change of subject interests

We quite expect that many users will find that their subject interests change over the period of the Investigation. Changes may in fact already have occurred since the profiles were first compiled. We can quite readily incorporate the necessary modifications into profiles if you will let us have details.

Feedback

We are relying heavily on the relevance returns for the experimental notifications to show us where there are faults in your profile. All returns are monitored and modifications made to the profile where these are clearly indicated. However, our tendency in initial profile construction is to prefer one which selects too much material rather than too little. This means that we expect a fair proportion of notifications to be irrelevant at first. However we are accepting this until we have accumulated enough data to show that the profile can be restricted without losing important material. This may mean that you will continue to receive irrelevant notifications for a while after you consider we should have done something about it.

Most users are returning the relevance assessment promptly and this is most helpful. Some delays are only to be expected due to holidays at this time of year, but if anyone is still holding returns we shall be glad to have them. This is particularly important if the relevance of the notifications is poor since we can rectify this only if we are told.

SDI proposed change of address

We are planning to move on about 14th September to other premises in Stevenage at 26 Park Place. You may find this address appearing on letters somewhat before that date. However, as virtually all your correspondence with us will use the reply-paid envelopes provided, this should not cause any real trouble.

Finally we should like to express thanks to all participants for their help in the somewhat preliminary stages of the investigation. We are not dissatisfied with progress so far and have hopes that the result will be a useful service.

S.58.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

SDI Investigation

We are currently analysing the performance of your profile based on the data that you have provided in the current experimental period of operation. One aim is to see what modifications can be made to reduce the proportion of irrelevant notifications and to increase the pick up of relevant documents.

In a number of cases it is not clear to us why articles that you marked are relevant to your interests as stated. This could be due either to lack of knowledge on our part or to a shift of your interest in the time since you first gave them to us. In either case we apologise and hope you will not mind explaining briefly how the articles listed on the attached sheet relate to your present subject interests. If, of course, your interests have changed we should be glad to have details of such changes.

A copy of your original statement of interests is enclosed together with a reply paid envelope for return of the attached sheet together with your comments.

We hope this will not cause you too much work.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,

S.60

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough, Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

Following a small modification to your profile it would be helpful if you could give us your relevance assessment on the enclosed notifications. They are the unmarked items on the printout.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough, Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

S 61

10A 63

The Institution of Electrical Engineers

26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire

Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

We recently sent you a list of titles of articles input to the computer for experimental runs 003 and 004 asking you to mark those items you consider relevant to your interests. According to our records we have not yet received your marked list and we hope you will not mind being reminded about it.

The information from your markings is essential for testing and modifying your profile before the start of operational service in November. As you can see this doesn't leave much time.

If, by any chance, the list did not reach you would you please tick the space below and return this letter to us.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

☐ I have not received the list referred to, please send a replacement

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough, Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers

26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire

Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

As you will see from the enclosed letters we are trying to chase up some outstanding returns from your SDI users. It seemed better to do it this way rather than load it all on to you. You may however wish to check before sending them out just in case they have got lost between you and us.

Things are generally not too bad but we could do with a lot more time before the start of the service in November - hence the urgency of these returns.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation

S.62/63a

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough, Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers

26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire

Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

I write to remind you that we have not received relevance assessments for the batches of experimental SDI notifications that we have been sending you over the past months. This presents us with a problem since without your replies we are unable to test and modify your profile ready for operational service as required by the Investigation. Since the service will start in November there is very little time left to do this.

We should be most reluctant to lose your kind co-operation and realise that circumstances such as vacations may have delayed your replies. However, if you wish to continue to take part it is essential that we have your returns without delay.

It would greatly help us if you could mark and return the attached sheet to indicate your wishes in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation

From:

To:

Mr. P. Clague,
SDI Investigation,
The Institution of Electrical Engineers,
26 Park Place,
Stevenage,
Herts.

☐ I do not wish/am unable to continue taking part in the SDI Investigation.

☐ I wish to continue taking part

☐ a) my returns are enclosed herewith

☐ b) my returns will follow shortly

Signed _____

Date _____

S.63R

The Institution of Electrical Engineers

26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire

Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

Earlier this year you elected to have the SDI notifications for your users routed through you during the period of experimental service.

Now that we are preparing to start the weekly operational service with a consequently much greater flow of notifications it seems only fair to ask whether you wish to continue this arrangement or would prefer us to send direct to users.

On balance the latter is somewhat easier for our mailing operations but that is of little moment if you prefer to have them sent via you.

Would you please indicate your wishes on the attached form and return it to us.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,

Manager, SDI Investigation.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough, Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

From:

To:

SDI Investigation,
The Institution of Electrical Engineers,
26 Park Place,
Stevenage,
Hertfordshire.

I should prefer the SDI notifications for the weekly service to be sent:

a) direct to my users ☐

b) through me ☐

Comments:

Signed. . . . . .

Date. . . . . .

S64r

The Institution of Electrical Engineers

26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire

Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

SDI Investigation

As you will see we are now using preprinted forms for the SDI computer printout.

Two copies of the printout will be sent each week with the card notifications. One copy should be returned to us showing your relevance markings. The second copy is for your own requirements and may be disposed of as you wish.

S.65

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough, Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

As the weekly SDI service notifications are to be routed through you we enclose a supply of Reply Paid envelopes for the returns.

Please let us know when you require a further supply.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough, Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers

26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire

Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

SDI Investigation

As you will see we are now using preprinted forms for the SDI computer printout.

The copies of the printout will be sent each week with the card notifications. One copy should be returned to us showing your relevance markings. The second copy is for your own requirements and may be disposed of as you wish.

From now on we shall be grateful if you will send your returns direct to us and not, as before, via your Project Associate. Reply paid envelopes for this purpose will be provided.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough, Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

S.65t

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

Dear

We have pleasure in sending you the first of the weekly SDI services that you will receive during the operational period of the Investigation. You will receive notifications regularly except for those weeks when no documents match your profile.

As explained earlier two copies of the notification form will be provided with each batch of cards. One copy is for your own use or disposal. The other copy of the form should be returned to us (via your Project Associate) as soon as possible each week showing your relevance assessment of each item notified.

We shall, of course, be regularly monitoring your returns to determine how well your profile is performing. However, if you are for any reason dissatisfied with the service we should like to know immediately: special provision for this is made on the form.

Comments of any sort will be most welcome and may be written on the back of the notification form. In particular since we are attempting to cover all English language articles in the various fields of electronics research, we shall be glad to know of any article of importance to your work which fails to be included in your notifications. A list of the periodicals scanned in the Investigation will be sent to you shortly.

Thank you for co-operating in the Investigation so far and bearing with us through the many teething troubles. We hope that you will find the regular weekly service of value.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,

Manager, SDI Investigation.

P.S. Each batch of documents has a three figure prefix to indicate the batch or week number. The first of the weekly batches is numbered 011. There were no batches between 007 and 011.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

S.66a

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

As you know we have recently started the weekly service of SDI notifications and we hope that you are finding them of interest.

Over the past months we have been using your returns to test and modify your profile ready for the weekly service. Some such modifications have been made recently and before the service based on this new profile runs for too long we should like to test their probable effect.

We are, therefore, sending you herewith a list of documents input earlier to the computer and matched against your profile. It would give us the necessary test data if you would tick any items that you consider should be picked out by your profile.

I hope you won't mind having this further list to check.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

S.69

The Institution of Electrical Engineers

26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire

Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

December, 1968.

Dear

During the course of the SDI service we are attempting to monitor the performance of your profile and gradually to modify and improve it. For this we are helped by your regular return of the printout showing your relevance markings and in particular by any comment you make.

However, we are continually aware that profile may be failing to select some relevant documents and we should like to assess to what extent this is true in your case.

From time to time, therefore, we shall send you a partial list of a batch of articles input to the computer and ask you to mark any relevant items. The first of these is enclosed herewith. Please tick only those articles which, judging from title, you consider should be selected by your profile. No other marking is necessary.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

December, 1968

Dear

SDI Investigation

Your SDI profile has now been running for a few months and from your relevance returns we know what proportion of the notifications are relevant.

However, before we can assess and improve the overall performance of your current profile we need to know what articles relevant to your interests are being missed.

For this purpose we are sending herewith a partial listing of articles input to one of the recent SDI computer runs for you to examine. Would you please tick any item which, judging from the information given, you would wish your profile to pick up. If you are in any doubt please leave it unmarked. If, as is quite possible, none of the items are really relevant to your interests, please note this on the front page.

Where several different interests are combined in the profile you may, of course, wish to pass the list to several individuals for marking.

A reply paid envelope is enclosed for return of the list.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

S.73G

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough, Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

January, 1969

Dear

SDI Investigation

Now that the weekly SDI service has been in operation for two months we should like to know how you feel about it. In particular we wish to find out whether your present profile still needs major modification, and which type of service will best suit your needs.

Your weekly relevance returns give us valuable data for assessing and modifying the performance of your profile. They do not, however, tell us your overall reaction to the service and whether you would prefer a different kind of performance.

To obtain this information we have drafted the enclosed questionnaire which we hope you will not mind completing. We have limited it to a few basic questions but we are equally interested in receiving any comments you care to make on the service and space has been left for these at the end of the form.

The essence of SDI is that it should attempt to meet individual requirements. We want to make sure that we take account of individual preference in type of service as well as individual requirements for subject coverage.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

Profile No._____

SDI Service Questionnaire

1. What is your opinion of the SDI service you have been receiving over the last two months? (Please do not consider our feelings in this)

☐ Very poor ☐ Poor ☐ Fair ☐ Good ☐ Very good

2. Which aspect of the service appears least satisfactory

☐ Too many items are irrelevant

☐ Too many items are of minor interest

☐ Too many potentially relevant articles are missed

☐ Other (Please state)

3. When you are assessing the relevance of the notifications (1, 2 or X), are those items which you are "2"

☐ of only minor interest? (i.e. Their removal would improve your notifications)

☐ of moderate interest? (i.e. Many could be eliminated without detriment to thenotifications)

☐ of considerable though not primary interest? (i.e. They provide useful information)

If you distinguish them in some other way, please explain.

4. How many English-language periodical articles relevant to your interests do you estimate are published each year?

☐ less than 10 ☐ between 10 and 100

☐ between 100 and 1000 ☐ over 1000

S.77

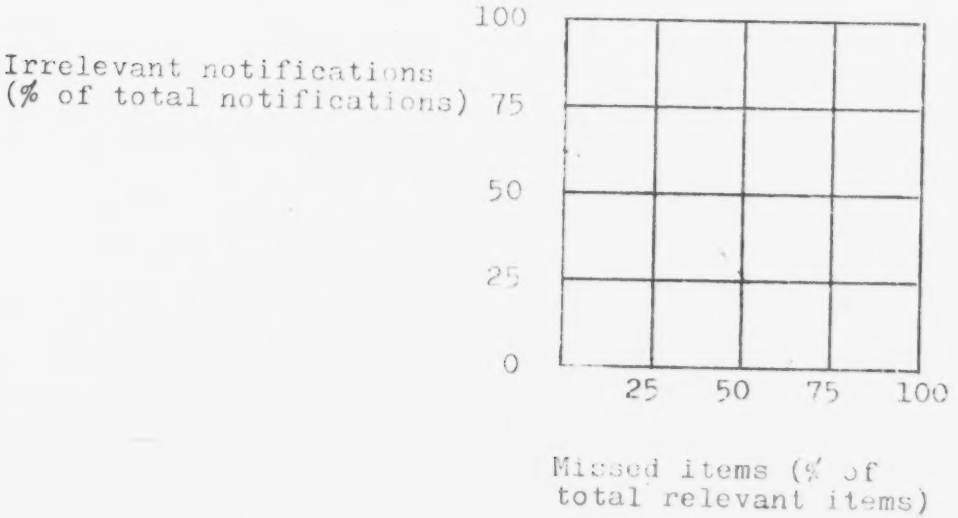
5. a) The ideal SDI service would provide no irrelevant notifications and miss no relevant items. Accepting that a compromise has to be made, would you prefer a service which:-

☐ produces few irrelevant notifications even at the cost of missing a substantial proportion of relevant items.

☐ misses few relevant items even though the proportion of irrelevant notifications is high.

☐ seeks a compromise between the above two.

b) The range of choice possible is illustrated by the generalized SDI performance curve below. Please indicate the point on the curve at which you would like your own profile to operate.



Signed_____

Date_____

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

SDI Investigation

We are a bit worried that we have not received relevance returns from you for the past month or so.

These returns, as you will appreciate, provide essential data for assessing the SDI system in general, and in particular for testing and improving your subject profile.

Since your lack of returns may be caused by circumstances, e.g. absence, or pressure of work, in which it might be helpful if we discontinued notifications for a time, we are holding further service until we hear from you.

Naturally we should very much like to retain your participation in the Investigation and if there is anything we can do toward this end please let us know.

We should be glad if you would indicate your wishes on the attached form and return it to us.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

S.78

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough, Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

From:

Profile No._____

A ☐ I wish to continue to take part in the SDI Investigation. My returns are sent herewith/will follow shortly.

B ☐ I do not wish/am unable to take part any longer in the Investigation.

It would help us in our Investigation if you could give briefly your reasons if you wish to withdraw.

Comments (if any)

Signed_____

Date_____

Appendix 10 A(74)

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

SDI Investigation

We hope you won't mind being reminded about your SDI relevance assessment returns: we don't appear to have received any for the last month or so.

When you are able we should be glad if you could let us have them back.

If, of course, the lack of recent returns reflects any dissatisfaction with the notifications we should particularly like to know of this.

Yours sincerely

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D.C. Eng. F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

Thank you for your replies and comments in answer to our recent questionnaire.

We are very pleased that so many users took the opportunity to make comments since these give us very valuable additional information.

To avoid delay in replying to comments our answers are handwritten below. We trust that this sacrifice of some degree of legibility for speed will be acceptable to you.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

S.80

10A-84

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough, Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

Appendix 10 A(16)

Delay in Receipt of Journals

As you will notice, many articles included in the present batch of SDI notifications are from issues of journals dated some months ago.

Delay in receipt of these is due to recent industrial disputes in the United States.

The sudden influx of this accumulated material will probably result in an increase in the notifications you receive over the next few weeks.

SDI Investigation

Appendix 10 A(77)

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

We should be grateful if you would examine the enclosed list and tick those articles which, judging from the title, you consider should be selected by your SDI profile.

You may recognise the list as part of one sent to you earlier. Our aim in resubmitting it to you as one of a small random selection of SDI participants is to gain some idea of the variations to be expected in the marking of such lists. We shall then be able to make allowance for this variation in assessing and modifying the performance of profiles.

We hope you won't mind being "victimised" in this random manner.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

S.81

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D.C. Eng. F.I.E.E.

10A-86

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

We should be grateful if you would examine the enclosed list and mark those articles which, judging from the title, you consider should be selected by your profile.

You may recognise the list as part of one sent to you earlier. However, this time we should like you to mark the relevant items "1" (highly relevant) or "2" (partially relevant) applying the same criteria as you do in your marking of the regular weekly notification returns.

Our aim, of course, is to gain some idea of the relative importance of various articles and to assess the performance of profiles in relation to the more important articles.

We are sending this list only to a small random sample of participants. We hope you won't mind being "victimised" in this random manner.

Yours sincerely,

I. Clague,
Manager, [illegible] Investigation.

[illegible].82

Appendix 10 A(iv)

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

In connection with our attempts to establish the performance of your profile we are sending you herewith another sample list of articles input to the SDI system.

As before we should be grateful if you would mark any items you would expect your profile to select. However, this time we should like you to mark them either "1" (highly relevant), or "2" (partially relevant). Unmarked items will, of course, be assumed to be "X" (non-relevant).

If you do not have time to complete the list would you please indicate the point you reached.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D.C. Eng. F.I.E.E.

S.84

10A-88

Appendix 10 A(-C)

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

We [illegible] reminding you that we had been receiving no relevance returns for the SDI notifications and asking whether you wished us to continue the service.

Your will appreciate that it is wasteful to keep your profile on file in these circumstances and in the absence of a reply we are arranging to delete your name from the records.

If there is a good reason for the hiatus and you still wish to continue we should be happy to reconsider.

Yours sincerely

T. Clague.
Manager, SDI Investigation

The Institution of Electrical Engineers

26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire

Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

We are sending you herewith the first notifications produced by your SDI subject profile. Further batches will be sent to you each week.

One copy of the printout should be returned to us each week in the reply-paid envelope showing your relevance grading (1,2 or X) for each document. The cards are entirely for your own purposes to be filed or discarded as you wish.

Initially your profile may contain faults which we shall hope to correct in the light of your returns. Any comments you wish to make will be helpful in this and these can usefully be written on the back of the return.

We trust you will find participation in the Investigation interesting and useful.

Yours sincerely,

I. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

S.38

The Institution of Electrical Engineers

26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire

Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

For many users it would be a useful additional feature if their profiles could select articles published by particular authors.

This is a facility which is available with our programs but which has not been used regularly in the SDI service.

We are now proposing to test the value of including authors and would welcome your help in providing names.

If you would care to list some on the attached form we should be happy to include them in the tests. There is, of course, no need for the list to be exhaustive.

Yours sincerely,

P. Cragne

P. Cragne,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

S.89

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough, Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

To: Manager,
SDI Investigation,
The Institution of Electrical Engineers,
26 Park Place,
Stevenage,
Hertfordshire.

Papers published by the following authors are likely to be relevant to my own information requirements:

~~Forenam~~ Surname

Initials

Signed _____

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The Institution of Electrical Engineers

26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire

Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

We are, as perhaps you know, engaged on a programme of studies of various types of information service, including the SDI Investigation in which you are taking part.

For one of our studies we require certain data and wonder whether you would be willing to help us.

We should like to have details of any papers (from journals and periodicals) published within, say, the last six months which you have found particularly valuable. We are not concerned with how you came to know of or see the paper; we merely wish to identify those papers that a selection of scientists and engineers have found especially valuable.

If you are willing to help us in this way, perhaps you would give the details of the paper or papers on the attached form and return it in the enclosed reply-paid envelope. If no papers were particularly valuable to you during that time, a "nil" return would be equally valuable.

Thank you for your help.

Yours sincerely,

T.M Aitchison

Manager, Information Research

10A-93

To: Mr. T.M. Aitchison,
Manager,
Information Research,
The Institution of Electrical Engineers,
26 Park Place,
Stevenage,
Hertfordshire.

Particularly valuable periodical articles

Herewith the details (so far as I can supply them*) of the paper(s) I have found particularly valuable to me during the last six months:

(1) Title of article:

Author

Title, date and page of periodical

- - - - - - - - -

(2) Title of article:

Author

Title, date and page of periodical

- - - - - - - - -

(3) Title of article:

Author

Title, date and page of periodical

- - - - - - - - -

(If there are more than three articles which you consider should be included please list additional ones overleaf)

Date: Signed _____

(Please give as many of these details as you can: if you cannot give these details, please give whatever clues to it you have.)

S.90r.

SDI INVESTIGATION

We should be grateful if you could give us a little extra information in your return this week.

In addition to the usual 1, 2, X relevance assessments would you please assign one of the following letters as appropriate to each item:

S - Articles you had already Seen or were aware of.

N - Articles New to you.

S

S.90

Appendix 1C A(87)

SDI INVESTIGATION

This week we should like you to give us a little more information on the use you make of these particular notifications.

In addition to the usual 1, 2, X markings would you please assign one of the following letters, as appropriate, to each of the relevant items:

R - Articles you intend to **Read** fairly soon

F - Card Filed for possible future reference

D - Card examined and Discarded

R

Appendix 10 A(88)

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

We are, as you know, attempting to measure the performance of the SDI Service that we are providing.

In this connection we are sending you herewith a sample list of articles input recently to the system.

We should be grateful if you would tick any item(s) which, judging from the information given, you would wish your profile to select. If, as is possible, none of the items listed is really relevant to your interests, we should be grateful to have the list returned with a note to this effect.

If, of course, you do not have time to complete the list would you please indicate the point you reached.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

SDI Investigation

The SDI programs are now being run on Bulford University KDF9.

We regret that, as a result of the t[illegible], we have not been able to use our normal p[illegible] SDI forms, but hope to rectify this shortly.

In the meantime we should be glad if you would return one copy of the present notification showing your relevance assessments (ticks or X) in the usual way.

Appendix 10 A(90)

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
28 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

We hope we may once again impose on your kindness and ask you to scan the attached list and mark any items which you would expect your profile to select.

As before would you mark items 1 (highly relevant), or 2 (partially relevant). Unmarked items will be assumed to be not relevant.

If you do not have time to scan the complete list would you please indicate the point you reached.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D.C. Eng. F.I.E.E.

S.99

10A-99

The Institution of Electrical Engineers

26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire

Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Alternative form of SDI notifications

As you see, your latest SDI notifications are in a different form.

We should be grateful if you could help us by doing two things:

1. Return the second copy to us showing your relevance assessments (i.e. ✓ or X) in the usual way.
2. Give us your views on this new form of notification by answering the questions below.

Question: Given the choice of the usual cards or the new notifications in a regular SDI service, would you:

Very much prefer the new form of notification ☐

Somewhat prefer the new form of notification ☐

Very much prefer the cards ☐

Somewhat prefer the cards ☐

Have no particular preference ☐

What are the reasons for your choice?

. . . . . .

. . . . . .

. . . . . .

. . . . . .

Comments: Any suggestions you wish to make for alterations and improvements to the notifications will be welcome.

Signed _____

N.B. To avoid an inconvenient hiatus in the card supply the cards for this week's notifications will be despatched as usual within the next few days.

S.100

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SDI INVESTIGATION

As promised we are now sending the cards for your SDI notifications previously despatched in the form of computer printout.

Naturally no relevance returns are required.

Delivery of journals has recently been delayed. In view of this and to avoid sending you too many communications at one time next week's notifications will cover two weeks' input. We hope you will forgive the extra delay that this will entail.

S.105

SDI INVESTIGATION

As promised we are now sending the cards for your SDI notifications previously despatched in the form of computer printout.

Naturally no relevance returns are required.

Delivery of journals has recently been delayed. In view of this and to avoid sending you too many communications at one time next week's notifications will cover two weeks' input. We hope you will forgive the extra delay that this will entail.

S.105

SDI INVESTIGATION

As promised we are now sending the cards for your SDI notifications previously despatched in the form of computer printout.

Naturally no relevance returns are required.

Delivery of journals has recently been delayed. In view of this and to avoid sending you too many communications at one time next week's notifications will cover two weeks' input. We hope you will forgive the extra delay that this will entail.

S.105

The Institution of Electrical Engineers

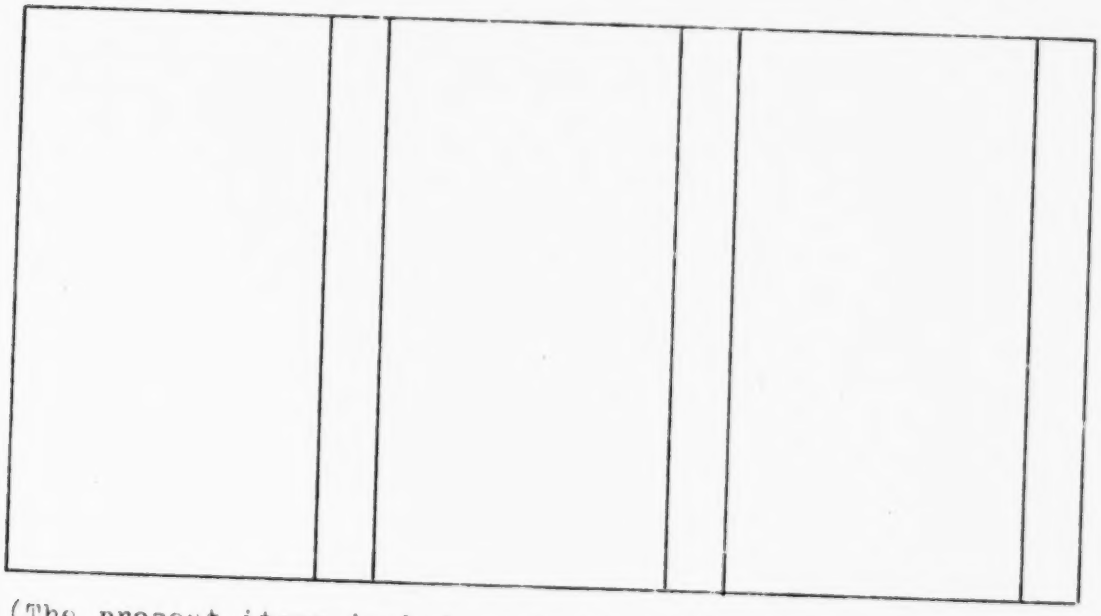
26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire

Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

The following items represent papers selected in recent weeks on the basis of authors listed earlier by you. They are in addition to your normal notifications, and we would appreciate it if you would indicate their relevance in the usual manner (1, 2 or X) and return this form to us.



(The present items include only those not previously included in your notifications and cover several weeks. Normally they would be included with your general notifications.)

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, Sbl Investigation

S.103

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

We should be most grateful for your help in assessing the relevance of the enclosed documents.

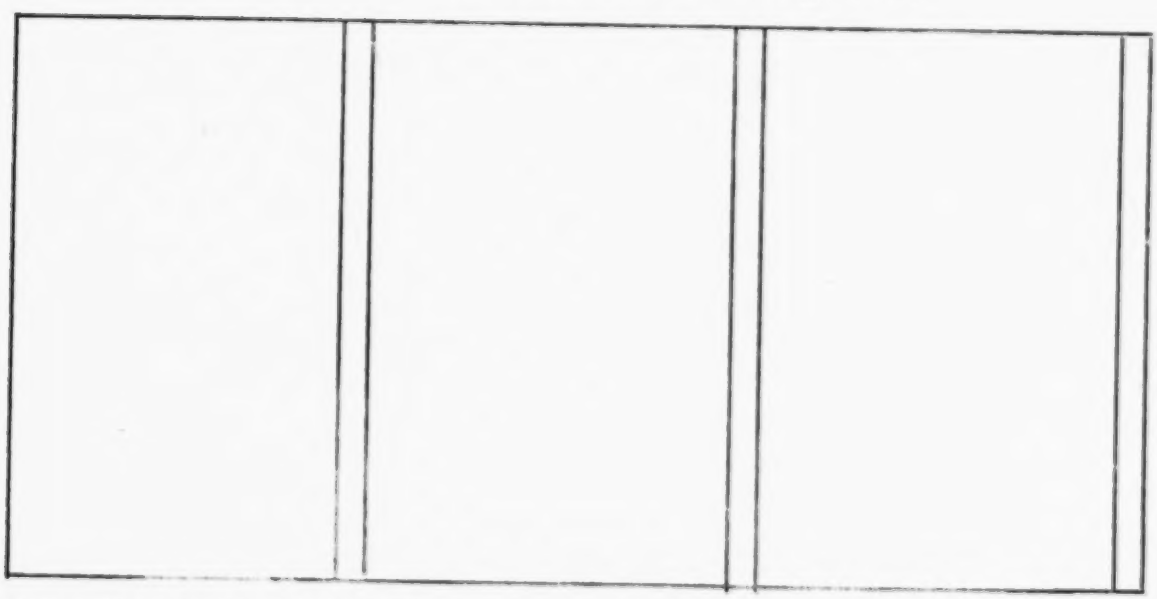
You may well recognize them as a sample of items previously included in your SDI notifications. However, we should like you to ignore any previous relevance marking and give below your assessment (1, 2 or X) purely on the basis of your present examination of the document.

We hope that this will not cause you too much extra work.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.



P.S. The copies of the documents are for your own use or disposal as you wish. We do not wish to have them back.

S.106

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough, Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams Voltampere London Telex Cables Voltampere London WC2

Dear

Some two years ago you were kind enough to help us in a government-supported study of the attitudes of research workers to scientific and technical information and their use of information services.

We are now repeating the study to obtain data on the present situation and hope that you will not mind giving us your assistance again by completing the enclosed questionnaire.

In the previous questionnaire the Comments added at the end were particularly valuable: any that you care to make at this time will be most welcome.

A reply-paid envelope is enclosed.

Yours sincerely,

T. M. Aitchison,
Manager, Information Research.

Enc.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

11. Do you consider that articles of value to you appear in periodicals other than those which you see regularly?

Yes ( ) No ( )

If YES, do you consider the number of such articles

Large ( ) Moderate ( ) Small ( )

12. If of the following do you use most?

( ) The main library of your organisation.

( ) A departmental or section library.

( ) A library external to your organisation.(Please give its name)

.....

13. How often, on average, do you use the above library (either by telephone, correspondence, visits, or by receiving requested material from it, other than periodicals on routine circulation)?

.....times per month

14. Where, in relation to your office, is this library?

( ) Same building - same floor.

( ) Same building - different floor.

( ) Different building within convenient walking distance.

( ) Different building not within convenient walking distance.

15. How many technical periodicals (other than abstracts journals and lists of titles) do you see or scan regularly?

.....

Please give the titles of the six which are most important to you (abbreviated titles will do).

1. ..... 4. .....

2. ..... 5. .....

3. ..... 6. .....

16. Please tick any of the following which you regularly use to keep yourself aware of current published information (i.e. scanning most issues).

a. ( ) Abstracts bulletin or titles list issued by the library or information service of your own organisation

b. ( ) British Technology Index

c. ( ) Chemical Abstracts

d. ( ) Chemical Titles

16. Cont'd.

e. ( ) Computer Abstracts

f. ( ) Control Abstracts

g. ( ) Current Contents: space, electronics and physical sciences

h. ( ) Current Papers in Electrotechnology

i. ( ) Current Papers in Physics

j. ( ) Current Papers on Control

k. ( ) Electrical and Electronics Abstracts (Science Abstracts - B)

l. ( ) Electronics and Communications Abstracts

m. ( ) Engineering Index (Electrical and Electronics Engineering Section)

n. ( ) Index Aeronauticus

o. ( ) Instrument Abstracts

p. ( ) N.A.S.A. Scientific and Technical Aerospace Reports

q. ( ) Nuclear Science Abstracts

r. ( ) Physics Abstracts (Science Abstracts - A)

s. ( ) Solid State Abstracts

t. ( ) U.S. Government Research and Development Reports

u. ( ) Other (please state) .....

.....

17. How much time (at work, on journeys or at home) do you consider you spend scanning or reading published technical information (periodicals, abstracts, reports from other organisations etc)?

..... hours per week

How much of this is spent actually reading and assimilating as distinct from scanning?

..... hours per week

18. If you are a research student, when do you expect to complete your thesis?

.....

19. Comments (Any comments you care to make on the questions or on your answers will be welcomed).

Date ..... Signed .....

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

Dear

Some two years ago you were kind enough to help us in a government-supported study of the attitudes of research workers to scientific and technical information and their use of information services.

We are now repeating the study to obtain data on the present situation and hope that you will not mind giving us your assistance again by completing the enclosed questionnaire.

In the previous questionnaire the Comments added at the end were particularly valuable: any that you care to make at this time will be most welcome.

A reply-paid envelope is enclosed.

Yours sincerely,

T. M. Aitchison,
Manager, Information Research.

Enc.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

11. Do you consider that articles of value to you appear in periodicals other than those which you see regularly?

Yes ( ) No ( )

If YES, do you consider the number of such articles

Large ( ) Moderate ( ) Small ( )

12. Which of the following do you use most?

( ) The main library of your organisation.

( ) A departmental or section library.

( ) A library external to your organisation. (Please give its name)

.....

13. How often, on average, do you use the above library (either by telephone, correspondence, visits, or by receiving requested material from it, other than periodicals on routine circulation)?

..... times per month

14. Where, in relation to your office, is this library?

( ) Same building - same floor.

( ) Same building - different floor.

( ) Different building within convenient walking distance.

( ) Different building not within convenient walking distance.

15. How many technical periodicals (other than abstracts journals and lists of titles) do you see or scan regularly?

.....

Please give the titles of the six which are most important to you (abbreviated titles will do).

1. ..... 4. .....

2. ..... 5. .....

3. ..... 6. .....

16. Please tick any of the following which you regularly use to keep yourself aware of current published information (i.e. scanning most issues).

a. ( ) Abstracts bulletin or titles list issued by the library or information service of your own organisation

b. ( ) British Technology Index

c. ( ) Chemical Abstracts

d. ( ) Chemical Titles

16. Cont'd.

e. ( ) Computer Abstracts

f. ( ) Computer and Control Abstracts

g. ( ) Current Contents: physical sciences

h. ( ) Current Papers in Electrical and Electronics Engineering.

i. ( ) Current Papers in Physics

j. ( ) Current Papers on Computers and Control

k. ( ) Electrical and Electronics Abstracts (Science Abstracts - B)

l. ( ) Electronics and Communications Abstracts

m. ( ) Engineering Index

o. ( ) Instrument Abstracts

p. ( ) N.A.S.A. Scientific and Technical Aerospace Reports

q. ( ) Nuclear Science Abstracts

r. ( ) Physics Abstracts (Science Abstracts - A)

s. ( ) Solid State Abstracts

t. ( ) U.S. Government Research and Development Reports

u. ( ) ESRO/ELDO SDI service

v. ( ) ISI ASCA Service

w. ( ) UKCIS SDI Service (Nottingham)

x. ( ) Other (please state) .....

.....

17. How much time (at work, on journeys or at home) do you consider you spend scanning or reading published technical information (periodicals, abstracts, reports from other organisations etc.)?

..... hours per week

How much of this is spent actually reading and assimilating as distinct from scanning?

..... hours per week

18. Comments (Any comments you care to make on the questions or on your answers will be welcomed).

Date ..... Signed .....

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Dear

I am writing to let you know that from January 1970 the SDI Investigation is being conducted as a cost-recovery operation.

In this new phase an improved version of the SDI service previously provided free to a specially selected group of participants will be made available generally to any person or group in the U.K.

A draft copy of the descriptive leaflet and of the letter we are sending to present participants is enclosed for your information. As you can see they are being offered a reduced rate of subscription.

We really are sorry that we were unable to give longer warning of this change. To some extent this is due to a need not to affect other studies in the Investigation. However, in order to alleviate the effects of this short notice, we shall be continuing the service to present participants until the end of January.

We are very conscious of how much help you have given us since the very beginning of the Investigation and we should very much like to have your further support in making the new service known to potential users. Additional copies of the leaflet will be sent to you in the next day or so as soon as they are ready.

If, of course, there are any points that are unclear or on which you need further information we shall be delighted to hear from you.

Yours sincerely,

F. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough, Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

1st December, 1969

Dear

From January 1970 the SDI Investigation will be entering a new phase. The present weekly SDI service will continue in an improved form, but, instead of being provided free-of-charge to a specially-selected sample of electronics research workers, it will be available, on a cost-recovery basis, to anyone in the United Kingdom. Details of the service and the subscription rates are enclosed.

We are very conscious of how much we owe to the participants, such as yourself, who have helped us throughout the previous phases of the Investigation, and we would not willingly sever the connection. It has, therefore, been agreed that the present participants in the Investigation will be entitled to a reduction of £10 in the subscription payable in 1970, i.e. the rate for you will be £35 per annum.

It was impossible, unfortunately, to make any earlier announcement of the new phase and to give advance warning of the change to a cost-recovery operation. To give you more time to decide we shall continue to provide your regular weekly SDI service until the end of January 1970. However, so that we may make an early start on revising your profile for the new phase (to whatever extent you wish, including compiling a fresh one) we should welcome an early indication, on the enclosed, that you hope to subscribe to the service. We shall then contact you to ascertain the changes you require in your profile.

I do hope you will be able to continue with us.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague
Manager, SDI Investigation.

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough, Ph.D., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.

S.101

SDI PROJECT DESCRIPTOR FILE AT 18/09/70

ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION
ELECTRIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEMS
ELECTRIC REACTORS
ELECTRIC VEHICLES
ELECTRICAL CONDUCTIVITY
ELECTRICAL CONNECTORS
ELECTRICAL MEASUREMENTS
ELECTRICAL PROPERTIES
ELECTROADSORPTION
ELECTROCHEMICAL TRANSISTORS

ELECTROCHROMICS
ELECTRODELESS DISCHARGES
ELECTRODEPOSITION
ELECTRODES
ELECTRODYNAMICS
ELECTROJETS
ELECTROLUMINESCENCE
ELECTROLUMINESCENT LAMPS
ELECTROLYTES
ELECTROLYTIC CAPACITORS

ELECTROLYTIC CELLS
ELECTROMAGNETIC COMPATIBILITY
ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS
ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVES
ELECTROMAGNETS
ELECTROMECHANICAL DEVICES
ELECTROMECHANICAL EFFECT
ELECTROMECHANICAL FILTERS
ELECTROMETER TUBES
ELECTROMETERS

ELECTRON ACCELERATORS
ELECTRON ATTACHMENT
ELECTRON BEAM MACHINING
ELECTRON BEAM WELDING
ELECTRON BEAMS
ELECTRON DENSITY
ELECTRON DETACHMENT
ELECTRON DIFFRACTION
ELECTRON ELECTRON
ELECTRON FLOW

ELECTRON GAS
ELECTRON GUNS
ELECTRON LENSES
ELECTRON MICROSCOPES
ELECTRON MIRRORS
ELECTRON MULTIPLIERS
ELECTRON OPTICS
ELECTRON PROBES
ELECTRON SHELLS
ELECTRON SPIN

SDI PROJECT DESCRIPTOR FILE AT 28/09/70

PHOTOELECTROMAGNETIC EFFECT
PHOTOGRAPHIC EMULSIONS
PHOTOGRAPHY
PHOTOIONIZATION
PHOTOLUMINESCENCE
PHOTOMETRY
PHOTOMULTIPLIERS
PHOTONS
PHOTOPROCESSING
PHOTORESISTORS
PHOTOSENSITIVITY
PHOTOTHYRISTORS
PHOTOTRANSISTORS
PHOTOVOLTAIC CELLS
PHOTOVOLTAIC EFFECT
PHOTOVOLTAIC EFFECTS
PHPV-A
PHSS-A
PHYS-A
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES
PICKUPS
PICOSECOND
PIDGEON
PIERCE GUNS
PIEZOELECTRIC CRYSTALS
PIEZOELECTRIC DEVICES
PIEZOELECTRIC OSCILLATORS
PIEZOELECTRIC SEMICONDUCTORS
PIEZOELECTRICITY
PIEZORESISTANCE
PIEZOTRANSISTORS
PIN DIODES
PINCH EFFECT
PINCH OFF
PIONS
PIPE-A
PIPES
PISTONS
PLAN POSITION INDICATORS
PLANAR ARRAYS
PLANAR WAVEGUIDES
PLANE WAVES
PLANETS
PLANNING
PLASMA AMPLIFICATION
PLASMA ARC SPRAYING
PLASMA DEVICES
PLASMA DIODES
PLASMA FREQUENCY
PLASMA GUNS

SDI PROJECT DESCRIPTOR FILE AT 28/09/70

PROXIMITY FOCUSSING
PROXIMITY SWITCHES
PRM-A
PRSS-A
PSE"-A
PSEUDONOISE MODULATION
PSEUDOPOTENTIALS
PSEUDORANDOM PROCESSES
PSEUDORANDOM SEQUENCES
PSOPHOMETERS

PSRE-A
PTFE
PTLA-A
PTRE-A
PULLED JUNCTION
PULSARS
PULSE AMPLITUDE
PULSE AMPLITUDE ANALYZERS
PULSE AMPLITUDE MODULATION
PULSE ANALYZERS

PULSE CIRCUITS
PULSE CODE MODULATION
PULSE COMPRESSION
PULSE DISCRIMINATORS
PULSE DIVIDERS
PULSE DURATION DISCRIMINATORS
PULSE FREQUENCY DISCRIMINATORS
PULSE FREQUENCY MODULATION
PULSE GENERATORS
PULSE INTERVAL MODULATION

PULSE MODULATION
PULSE MULTIPLIERS
PULSE OSCILLATORS
PULSE POSITION MODULATION
PULSE RADAR
PULSE RADIOLYSIS
PULSE RATE TECHNIQUES
PULSE RECORDING
PULSE SHAPE
PULSE SHAPING

PULSE SOUND
PULSE SPIKES
PULSE STUFFING
PULSE TIME MODULATION
PULSE TRAINS
PULSE TRANSFORMERS
PULSE WIDTH MODULATION
PULSED LASERS
PULSES
PUMPING

SDI PROJECT DESCRIPTOR FILE AT 28/09/70

PUNCHED CARDS
PUNCHED TAPE
PURIFICATION
PURITY
PURTON
PUSH BUTTON SWITCHES
PUSH PULL AMPLIFIERS
PUSH PULL PUMPING
PYCS-A
PYRARGYRITE

PYROELECTRIC CRYSTALS
PYROELECTRICITY
PYROMETERS

Q BAND
Q FACTOR
Q SWITCHING
QJRH-A
QJRH-A
QUADRATURE NETWORKS

QUADRATURE SIGNALS
QUADRIPOLE CIRCUITS
QUADRUPOLE LENSES
QUADRUPOLE SYSTEMS
QUALITY CONTROL
QUANTIZATION
QUANTUM EFFICIENCY
QUANTUM THEORY.
QUARTZ
QUASARS

QUATE C.F.
QUATERNARY SEMICONDUCTORS
QUENCHING
QUEUING THEORY

RADAR
RADAR BEACONS
RADAR RECEIVERS
RADAR TRACKING
RADAR TRANSMITTERS

RADAR WEIGHTING
RADEMAKERS
RADIATION
RADIATION BEAMS
RADIATION DETECTORS
RADIATION EFFECTS
RADIATORS
RADIO COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS
RADIO DIRECTION FINDERS
RADIO FLASH

SCI PROJECT DESCRIPTOR FILE AT 28/09/70

SELF ADJUSTING SYSTEMS
SELF DIFFUSION
SELF FOCUSSING
SELF LOCKING
SELF PHASED AERIALS
SELF TRAPPING
SEMICONDUCTOR DETECTORS
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICES
SEMICONDUCTOR DIODES
SEMICONDUCTOR INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

SEMICONDUCTOR JUNCTIONS
SEMICONDUCTOR LASERS
SEMICONDUCTOR MASERS
SEMICONDUCTOR MATERIALS
SEMICONDUCTOR PRODUCTION TECHNIQUES
SEMICONDUCTOR SWITCHES
SEMICONDUCTORS I II2 III VI4
SEMICONDUCTORS I III VI2
SEMICONDUCTORS I V
SEMICONDUCTORS I V VI

SEMICONDUCTORS I V VI2

SEMICONDUCTORS I3 V VI3
SEMICONDUCTORS I3 V VI4
SEMICONDUCTORS II III VI
SEMICONDUCTORS II III VI4
SEMICONDUCTORS II III2 VI4
SEMICONDUCTORS II IV
SEMICONDUCTORS II IV V
SEMICONDUCTORS II IV V2
SEMICONDUCTORS II V

SEMICONDUCTORS II VI
SEMICONDUCTORS II3 V VI4
SEMICONDUCTORS III V
SEMICONDUCTORS III V VI2
SEMICONDUCTORS III VI
SEMICONDUCTORS IV V
SEMICONDUCTORS IV VI
SEMICONDUCTORS V VI
SEMIINSULATORS
SEMILETOR

SEMIMETALS
SEMPLAK
SENSE AMPLIFIERS
SENSITIVITY
SEPARATOR NETWORKS
SEPTIER
SEPTIER A.
SEQUENCES
SEQUENCING
SEQUENTIAL ACCESS

TIME ON PROFILE MODIFICATION AND ANALYSIS, AND USER ASSESSMENT

I PROFILES INITIALLY VG

Profile No.	Time spent in mins.	2nd Q assessment
031	-	VG
040	-	VG
073	-	VG
083	-	G
099	45	G
139	-	VG
148	330	VG
199	140	VG
245	145	VG
264	30	G
287	25	VG
302	-	VG
353	-	G
364	50	VG
435	-	VG
481	265	G
557	245	VG
204	195	G

PROFILES INITIALLY G

Profile No.	Time spent (mins)	2nd Q assess-ment	Profile No.	Time spent (mins)	2nd Q assess-ment	Profile No.	Time spent (mins)	2nd Q assess ment
004	270	G	168	35	F	340	125	VG
007	-	G	171	-	G	343	40	G
018	20	G	175	180	G	348	520	F
019	-	F	206	-	VG	358	265	G
026	180	G	207	-	F	362	30	G
029	190	VG	208	30	F	367	55	F
030	-	G	209	-	G	379	75	G
031	-	G	210	-	G	382	90	F
032	210	G	220	-	G/VG	388	-	G
034	-	G	227	75	G	389	-	G
035	-	G	230	55	G	391	-	G
036	60	G	242	130	F	398	260	G
039	90	G	243	75	G	401	80	G
042	60	VG	246	-	VG	402	105	VG
043	210	G	261	90	G	410	245	G
055	285	VG	267	65	F	411	302	VG
059	-	G	269	120	G	416	60	G
060	-	G	277	75	VG	418	-	VG
065	185	G	279	-	G	419	205	G
072	10	VG	282	50	G	420	95	G
085	-	VG	284	-	VG	425	185	G
095	-	G	285	35	G	436	70	VG
097	-	VG	288	195	G	440	60	G
100	60	VG	293	5	G	443	90	G
105	35	G	297	90	G	462	40	F
106	90	VP	300	-	F	464	305	G
111	100	VG	304	65	G	47-	-	G
117	30	G	306	-	G	471	40	F
129	270	F	308	-	G	485	65	G
138	75	G	310	-	G	486	65	G

II. (Cont)

Appendix 23A
(continued)

Profile No.	Time spent (mins)	2nd Q assess-ment	Profile No.	Time spent (mins)	2nd Q assess-ment	Profile No.	Time spent (mins)	2nd Q assess-ment
141	-	G	316	50	G	490	-	G
152	30	G	318	-	G	499	145	G
159	-	G	320	-	G	500	15	G
163	-	G	321	-	G	501	110	G
167	175	P	336	-	G	502	70	F
			339	-	G	505	150	G
						508	-	G
						509	-	G
						510	-	VG
						514	-	G
						518	85	G
						520	225	F
						521	-	VG
						525	-	G
						527	-	F
						528	30	VG
						530	90	G
						531	-	G
						536	-	G
						540	180	G
						544	-	G
						459	-	G
						551	30	G
						558	-	F
						559	110	F
						566	-	G
						571	-	G
						575	95	G
						164	155	F
						165	-	G

PROFILES INITIALLY F

Appendix 23A
(Continued)

Profile No.	Time spent in mins	2nd Q assess-ment	Profile No.	Time spent in mins	2nd Q assess-ment	Profile No.	Time spent in mins	2nd Q assess-ment
015	110	VG	180	95	G	377	160	F
022	-	G	185	375	G	380	110	F
023	225	VG	200	180	F	381	70	VG
041	60	G	226	20	G	383	75	F
047	185	G	239	210	F	384	120	F
053	15	G	248	15	F	385	165	G
058	150	F	260	100	VG	392	35	VG
067	300	G	262	210	F	397	240	G
075	150	G	266	90	G	400	75	VG
078	210	G	272	35	F	403	170	VG
079	55	F	280	-	F	404	60	F
092	70	VG	289	95	G	409	25	F
096	40	F	290	60	G	417	310	G
098	96	F	291	105	G	426	220	G
104	120	F	295	30	F	430	95	G
109	150	G	296	240	F	434	65	F
110	95	P	303	110	G	442	45	G
115	125	G	312	95	VG	445	105	G
118	85	G	322	255	G	452	180	G
121	90	F	326	65	G	455	-	G
126	260	G	328	65	VG	456	125	F
134	195	G	329	135	G	469	195	G
142	90	VG	333	120	P	473	110	G
147	30	G	337	135	G	480	45	G
149	90	G	342	30	F	482	15	G
170	195	F	357	105	G	488	100	VG
173	60	F	360	20	G	517	190	VG
174	50	G	361	85	G	523	55	F
177	-	G	363	15	G	532	5	F
178	40	F	369	105	G	538	95	F

III. (Cont)

Profile No.	Time spent in mins	2nd Q assess-ment	Profile No.	Time spent in mins	2nd Q assess-ment	Profile No.	Time spent in mins	2nd Q assess-ment
552	80	F						
567	20	G						
569	170	G						
570	115	G						
578	80	G						
580	135	G						
298	95	G						

Profile No.	Time spent in mins	2nd Q assess-ment
008	25	VG
135	-	F
265	115	G
325	40	G

PROFILES INITIALLY P

Profile No.	Time spent in mins	2nd Q assess-ment
002	120	G
084	125	F/G
145	120	F
169	30	G
192	100	F
201	-	P
202	120	F
263	95	P
313	105	P
319	25	P
332	55	F
338	190	VG
347	-	P
352	260	P
368	60	F
372	55	F
386	110	F
424	120	G
437	190	F
460	225	F
462	35	G
535	120	F
562	180	G
564	160	P
577	245	F

VI. PROFILES INITIALLY VP (Cont'd

Profile No.	Time Spent in mins	2nd Q assess-ment
286	160	F
468	25	VP
547	185	F
565	250	F

PROFILES COMPILED BY COMPILERS 1, 2 AND 3

Compiler No. 1

Profile No.	Profile No.
001	242
017	243
018	244
022	245
025	246
028	248
035	249
061	256
069	257
085	259
103	265
105	267
110	270
115	271
127	276
136	278
141	281
166	283
167	284
168	286
169	288
170	289
174	290
178	298
180	299
181	300
183	301
190	303
192	305
194	306
196	307
199	309

Compiler No. 1

Profile No.	Profile No.
200	312
202	313
206	316
207	319
211	320
212	323
213	326
216	328
217	329
219	332
222	334
224	336
225	337
229	338
231	340
232	343
233	346
237	349
238	350
356	473
357	474
359	477
360	278
361	479
362	480
363	481
366	484
367	486
369	487
371	490
374	491
379	493
381	499
382	500
384	504
385	507
387	510
389	514

Compiler No. 1

Profile No.	Profile No.
391	515
392	522
393	524
394	525
395	529
398	531
399	533
400	534
401	544
402	545
403	546
405	547
408	552
410	553
419	554
420	555
423	557
427	558
430	561
432	563
434	566
435	567
436	568
441	569
442	570
444	573
456	574
457	575
463	577
464	578
466	581
471	
472	
701	
702	
703	
704	
705	
706	

Compiler No. 1

Profile No.
707
708
709
710
711
712
713
715
716
717
718
720
721
723
727
734
738
742

Compiler No. 2

Profile No.	Profile No.
006	137
011	146
014	149
015	151
016	152
021	154
023	161
024	162
031	163
036	164
038	165
045	171
046	172
047	179
048	182
057	186
060	191
070	193
073	195
074	197
075	201
080	203
082	204
083	208
084	209
086	210
101	214
102	215
104	220
112	226
114	227
118	228
125	230
126	234
128	235
131	236
134	239

Compiler No. 2

Profile No.	Profile No.
240	342
241	344
247	345
253	348
254	351
258	352
260	353
261	354
263	355
264	358
266	364
268	365
269	370
272	372
273	373
275	375
277	376
282	377
285	378
287	380
292	383
293	386
295	388
296	397
297	404
302	409
304	411
308	416
310	417
314	418
315	422
321	424
324	425
325	426
330	429
335	437
339	448
341	449

Compiler No. 2

Profile No.	Profile No.
450	560
458	564
459	565
461	571
462	572
468	576
469	579
470	580
475	582
476	714
482	719
483	722
485	724
488	725
501	726
502	728
506	729
508	730
509	731
511	732
512	735
513	736
516	737
517	739
518	740
519	741
520	
521	
523	
526	
527	
528	
530	
532	
535	
536	
537	
538	
539	
549	
556	
559	

Compiler No. 3

Profile No.	Profile No.
002	072
003	078
004	079
005	087
007	088
008	090
009	092
010	095
012	096
013	097
019	098
020	099
029	100
030	106
033	107
034	109
037	111
039	113
040	117
041	119
042	120
043	121
044	122
049	123
050	124
052	129
053	130
054	132
055	133
056	135
058	138
059	139
064	142
065	143
066	145

Compiler No. 3 -

Profile No.	Profile No.
147	446
148	447
150	451
153	452
156	454
157	455
158	460
159	467
160	494
177	496
185	498
187	505
188	540
198	541
250	542
251	543
252	551
262	562
279	
280	
317	
318	
322	
333	
368	
390	
406	
407	
412	
413	
414	
415	
433	
438	
439	
440	
443	
445	

INSTITUTION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS

INSPEC

December 1967

SDI Investigation

Proposed comparison of methods of user interaction in compiling and modifying profiles.

T. M. Aitchison and P. Clague.

Introduction;

In the "Proposal to Investigate the Selective Dissemination of Information" it was stated that no comparison would be made of methods of user interaction in profile compilation and modification. On further consideration it is believed to be extremely important that the comparison be made. Profile compilation and modification are likely to be major elements in the costs of an operational S.D.I. service, and a unique opportunity will be lost if a comparison of the main methods of user interaction is not made at this point in the Investigation.

The main requirement for efficient profile compilation is that the initial statement of information requirements submitted by the user should give as much information, in as much detail, with as much explanation as possible. The method adopted in the present phase has been most successful in attaining this. As a result it has been neither necessary nor desirable to follow the procedure of the design-study phase and translate the user's words into the system desciptors and return this to him with suggestion of associated terms and additional concepts. This procedure had the disadvantage of requiring a great deal of work by the user on small points of detail, during the initial period when he is not receiving any useful return from the system: it also gave rise to considerable delays and a number of withdrawals.

It is therefore proposed that instead of applying this one method of interaction (i.e. comments on draft profiles) to all users, different methods of interaction should be investigated. The main alternative methods that seem possible are asking questions by letter and interviewing each user. These, together with the original method (sending profiles for comment), having no further contact with the user, and selecting whichever method of interaction (or none) is considered necessary, give five alternatives for investigation.

Although some 400 profiles have been drafted to date, these have been compiled without further contact with the users, so that it will be possible to include all of them in the test. To allow for future exigencies it is intended to use only 500 of the total of 600 profiles, i.e. 100 in each of the five groups.

Procedure

Selections will be made at random from 500 statements of information requirements and profile compilation conducted as follows:

(a) 100 profiles compiled with no user interaction, i.e. solely on the basis of the information submitted, including the references provided to relevant documents.

(b) 100 drafts prepared and submitted to users for comment, then profiles compiled on the basis of their comments.

(c) 100 drafts prepared and questions asked (by letter); then profiles compiled on basis of the answers.

(d) 100 profiles compiled on basis of statements after interviews with the users.

(e) 100 profiles compiled with no interaction or with whatever interaction is considered necessary.

The draft profiles will then be matched against a test collection of documents and the performance calculated for each group (i.e. recall and precision). The profiles will then be modified on the basis of the results of this first performance test, in one of two ways.

Half of the profiles will be modified without further interaction with the user: that is, the basis of the modifications will be the user's assessment of relevance, and the examination of the descriptors which matched, etc. (Interaction will only take place where it is necessary to reconcile serious differences between a user's statement and his relevance assessment). For the other half, the results of the test will be supplemented by whatever interaction is considered necessary, i.e. by sending profile for comment, sending questions, interviewing, or without any interaction.

The profile modifications will be checked by a further matching run using the same document collection and relevance assessments.

A second performance test will be carried out using a new document collection and relevance assessments. Records will be maintained of the effort involved in compiling the profiles before the first performance test and in modifying them between the first and second tests. The efficiency of the different methods of user interaction will then be compared by considering the effort required to reach a certain level of performance.

A table summarising the compatative study is attached. The effort required to compile or modify a profile may be expressed in monetary terms as: (1) cost of professional and clerical staff time, (2) input (machine) costs (3) travelling expenses (4) photocopying costs. Since however, it is expected that the main differences between groups will be in professional staff time and travelling expenses, it is intended to keep detailed records of only those items.

For performance it is intended to use the normal Precision and Recall measures. Since these are not single measures comparison between groups will be difficult. However it is considered possible to make a generally agreed and consistent ranking of results.

Following the second performance test, there will no further differentiation in the treatment of the five groups, but the groups will be re-examined periodically to discover if any differences exist in performance or in the effort required to obtain a satisfactory performance.

It is not expected that the inclusion of this comparative study in the SDI Investigation will delay the programme or increase the effort required. By the original proposal,

draft profiles would have been sent to all 500 users, questions would have been asked of a large proportion of these, and a smaller number would have been interviewed. By isolating each of the methods of interaction in turn it is hoped to obtain valuable additional information for approximately the same effort in profile compilation and modification. The main additional effort will be in organization of the comparative study and in analysis of the results.

COMPARATIVE STUDY - SUMMARY

GROUP	PROCEDURE	COMPILATION EFFORT	PERFORMANCE ON TEST 1	SUB-GROUP	MODIFICATION PROCEDURE	MODIFICATION EFFORT	PERFORMANCE ON TEST 2
(a)	No interaction	A1	Pa1	AX AY	X Y	A2X A2Y	Pa2X Pa2Y
(b)	Profile submitted for comments	B1	Pb1	bX bY	X Y	B2X B2Y	Pb2X Pb2Y
(c)	Questioned by letter	C1	Pc1	cX cY	X Y	C2X C2Y	Pc2X Pc2Y
(d)	Interviewed	D1	Pd1	dX dY	X Y	D2X D2y	Pd2X Pd2Y
(e)	Any or no Interaction as required	E1	Pe1	eX eY	X Y	E2X E2Y	Pe2X Pe2Y

Note: X = no interaction: profile and modified on basis of test results only

Y = any or no interaction as necessary.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

SDI Investigation

Dear

The initial preparatory work has been completed and we are now in a position to invite your comments on the enclosed first draft of the profile based on your Statement of Information Requirements. I should explain, however, that while we shall be delighted to receive your comments we do not expect you to spend time making a detailed analysis of the profile.

As you will see there are two parts to the profile:-

a) List of descriptors or terms.

b) Boolean logic statement defining the combination of descriptors needing to be satisfied before a document will match the profile.

Example:-

1. IMPATT devices
2. Read diodes
3. Gunn effect devices
4. Generation
5. Amplification
6. Masers
7. Millimetre waves
8. Microwaves.

$$1 + 2 + 3 + ((\overline{6} + 4 + 5).(7 + 8))$$

The operators '+' and '.' have their normal logical meaning of 'OR' and 'AND' respectively; $\overline{6}$ means NOT masers. Brackets have the usual algebraic meaning, but extra ones are used to satisfy computer requirements.

Thus the profile in the example above would select any article dealing with IMPATT devices or Read diodes or Gunn effect devices, or with the generation or amplification of microwaves or millimetre waves providing that a maser was not involved.

I hope this gives you enough information to work out the meaning of the draft profile. If you have any comments perhaps you would let us have them on the attached sheet using the reply-paid envelope. If there is no comment you wish to make, may we have a 'nil' return, please, by return of the sheet.

Thank you once again for your help

Yours sincerely,

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

P. Clague,

Manager, SDI Investigation.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

Dear

When you receive the enclosed letter I should not like you to think that nothing has been done till now with the statement you supplied over five months ago.

In fact a draft profile was compiled from your statement within a few weeks of its receipt and the concepts included in it were used to develop our index language. As this index language was further developed and refined with the addition of concepts from other profiles, the early draft profiles had to be amended accordingly.

Now that this initial work has been completed we are anxious to clear up a few outstanding points before we proceed to the next stage of profile testing and final modifications.

Yours sincerely,

P. Clague,
Manager, SDI Investigation.

S.26

Secretary: G. F. Gainsborough Ph.D. C.Eng. F.I.E.E.

The Institution of Electrical Engineers Savoy Place London WC2

Telephone: 01-240 1871 Telex: 261176 Telegrams: Voltampere London Telex Cables: Voltampere London WC2

54106

30th January, 1968.

From:

To:

Mr. A. Bardsley,
Messrs. Ferranti Limited,
Simonsway,
Wythenshawe,
Manchester 22.

P. Clague,
SDI Investigation,
Institution of Electrical Engineer,
Savoy Place,
London, W.C.2.

Information Requirements - Queries

Herewith, as requested, my replies to the following questions:

Questions:

1) Are we right in assuming that by Silicon integrated circuits you exclude thin - and thick-film integrated circuits and hybrid circuits?

2) Are you interested in all articles on silicon integrated circuits or only when manufacturing techniques or the particular applications you mention are involved?

NOTES FOR VISITS/INTERVIEWS

1. Any comments he has made: anything special known about him.

2. From questionnaire answers, do queries arise or is a check necessary on:-

   2.1. Qualifications?

   2.2. Position?

   2.3. Research role?

   2.4. Subject of research?

   2.5. Type of research?

3. From statement: consider queries in light of:-

   (3.1. General subject requirements)

   3.1.1. General subject area.

   3.1.2. Questions formulated in advance.

   3.1.3. Developments from answers to those questions.

   3.1.4. Considered in light of requirements of colleagues

   3.1.5. Any special limitations, e.g. theory, new developments, applications authors/periodicals.

   (3.2. Explanation of terms and concepts.)

   3.2.1. As given in statement.

   3.2.2. Other queries.

   3.2.3. Thesaurus terms on which his help might be sought.

   3.3. Relevant articles.

   3.3.1. Queries on relevance

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VISIT QUESTIONNAIRE (Part 2)

4.1. How many SDI notifications do you expect each week? ( )

4.2. If you had to make a choice would you prefer?

(a) everything of interest, however much noise ( )

(b) minimum noise, however much is missed ( )

(c) an optimum combination ( )

tending to a ( ) or b ( )

4.3. (Do you think you know of most of the new work published in your field, in English at least? Yes ( )
No ( )

(Do you think you miss some of the new work published in your field in English? Yes ( )
No ( )

4.4. By which of the following methods do you gain a substantial proportion of your knowledge of this work?

(a) from other workers, receiving reprints, attending conferences etc? Yes ( ) / No ( ).

(b) from seeing periodicals regularly? Yes ( ) / No ( )

Which periodicals? .....

.....

(c) From seeing abstracts journals or other lists or bulletins regularly? Yes ( ) / No ( ).

Which? .....

.....

(d) by receiving a special information service ?
Yes ( ) / No ( ).

Details .....

.....

4.5. (If some new work is thought to be missed, i.e. No. 2 or Yes 2 in 4.3): do you think that the number of articles you miss is Large ( ) Moderate ( ) Small ( )

S...

4.6. Of the three parts of the information problem:

finding out what is relevant ( )

getting hold of it ( )

finding time to read it ( )

which do you find the worst (W) and the easiest (E)

5. General information needs and views

5.1. (Comments)

5.2. Do you have an information problem?( ) or are things all right as they are? ( ).

5.3. What are your views: Favourable (1), Neutral (2), Unfavourable (X) on:

Information ( ), Libraries ( ), Information workers and Librarians ( ), Professional journals ( ), Conferences ( ), Abstracts journals ( ).

5.4. Do you keep a personal index? Yes ( ) / No ( )

On cards? Yes ( ) / No ( ).

Size: 6 x 4 ( ), 5 x 3 ( ).

Punched ( ), Other ( ).

5.5. How important is current-awareness information to you?

Very ( ), Moderate ( ), Unimportant ( ).

5.6. In a current-awareness service, such as SDI, would you prefer a copy of the article ( ) or a notification of it? (i.e. the title, author and other details) ( ).

5.7. How important do you consider it that the coverage of such a service should include:

(a) All foreign languages? Very ( ), Moderate ( ), Unimportant ( ).

(b) The main European languages (i.e. French, German and Italian)? Very ( ), Moderate( ), Unimportant ( ).

5.8. What sort of material do you most require?

Periodical articles ( ), Books ( ), Reports ( ), Conference proceedings or papers ( ), Thesis ( ), Manufacturers' literature ( ).

The Institution of Electrical Engineers
26 Park Place Stevenage Hertfordshire
Telephone: 0438/3311 Telegrams: Voltampere Stevenage Cables: Voltampere Stevenage

INSPEC

Alternative form of SDI notifications

As you see, your latest SDI notifications are in a different form.

We should be grateful if you could help us by doing two things:

1. Return the second copy to us showing your relevance assessments (1, 2 or X) in the usual way.
2. Give us your views on this new form of notification by answering the questions below.

Question: Given the choice of the usual cards or the new notifications in a regular SDI service, would you:

Very much prefer the new form of notification ☐
Somewhat prefer the new form of notification ☐
Very much prefer the cards ☐
Somewhat prefer the cards ☐
Have no particular preference ☐

What are the reasons for your choice?

. . . . . .
. . . . . .
. . . . . .
. . . . . .

Comments: Any suggestions you wish to make for alterations and improvements to the notifications will be welcome.

Signed _____

N.B. To avoid an inconvenient hiatus in the card supply the cards for this week's notifications will be despatched as usual within the next few days.

S.100